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VOLUME LXIII, NUMBER 19239 SUNDAY, MARCH 31, 1996 • NISSAN 11, 5756 • THU AL-QADAH 12, 1416 NIS 4.20 (EILAT NIS 3.60)

## Peres to visit Oman, Qatar

DAVID MAKOVSKY and news agencies

PRIME Minister Shimon Peres is to make an official visit to Oman and Qatar this week, officials in the Prime Minister's Office confirmed last night.

Peres was invited to Oman by the government of Sultan Qaboos bin Said for a two-day visit from April 1, the official Oman News Agency reported.

In neighboring Qatar, diplomatic sources said Peres was expected to visit Doha later in the week. Qatar invited Peres during this month's "Summit of Peacemakers" in Egypt.

Yitzhak Rabin made the first public visit to a Gulf Arab state by an Israeli leader in December 1994 when he went to Oman. It is believed that quiet ties between Israel and Oman date back to the 1970s.

Qatar and Oman, like the other four members of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) alliance, have no diplomatic relations with Israel but the two countries have accords with Israel for the exchange of trade missions.

Dr. Joseph Kostiner, an analyst on Gulf affairs at Tel Aviv University's the Dayan Center for Middle East Studies cautioned last night against expecting ties with Gulf states to improve beyond their current incremental pace. He said he believed ties with Oman or Qatar would improve gradually, but that no major leaps like full relations could be expected, since neither state wants to alienate Syria, which participated in the Gulf War.

Saudi Arabia, the dominant power within the pro-Western GCC, said earlier last week it would not seek to normalize ties with Israel before a comprehensive and final settlement with all Israel's Arab neighbors.

## Clinton: PLO keeping commitments to Israel

HILLEL KUTTLER WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Bill Clinton is planning to certify tomorrow that the PLO is in compliance with its commitments to Israel under the Oslo Accords.

However, in a bid to maintain the pressure on Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat, Clinton will state that he will again evaluate PLO compliance in mid-June, rather than in September, as mandated by Congress.

The president's periodic certification is required under terms of the Middle East Peace Facilitation Act, legislated following the 1993 signing of the Declaration of Principles. The administration had already presented its compliance report to Congress on March 1.

According to a Jewish community official who has met with administration officials on the matter, Clinton's letter to the chairman of several Congressional committees will state that so far Arafat has stepped up his efforts to halt terrorism.

The administration and Israel have coordinated closely on the certification issue, with both agreeing that Arafat must be pressed to do more to fight terrorism, the Jewish official said.

A senior administration official confirmed that Clinton will certify the PLO's compliance and that among the options being considered is stating the next certification would be issued on or about May 7, by which time the PLO is committed to amending its covenant.

But that option was apparently rejected, out of concern it would undermine the PLO's independence in making those changes.

# Hizbullah fires Katyushas into Galilee

TENS of thousands of people in confrontation line communities in the North slept in bomb shelters and security rooms last night, as Hizbullah fired several Katyusha rockets at the Galilee Panhandle and Western Galilee to avenge the deaths of two Lebanese civilians from IDF artillery fire yesterday afternoon.

There were no reports of casualties or damage after the bombardment at around 11 p.m.

The precipitating shelling incident - an apparent case of mistaken identity - had raised the already tense atmosphere along the border and in southern Lebanon to fever pitch.

In the past, Hizbullah has retaliated for casualties among Lebanese civilians by blasting the Galilee with Katyusha rockets. Last night, however, Israel issued an official apology for the incident, saying it had been a mistake.

"I tell [Israelis] to stay in their shelters today, tomorrow, and the day after," Hizbullah secretary-general Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah said in a statement issued in Beirut last night.

"I don't know at what hour the retaliation will come to avenge the innocent martyrs that you [Israelis] killed intentionally," Nasrallah was quoted as saying by news agencies.

"The Israelis have to stay in their shelters and they have to experience a taste

of any aggression they practice against our people," he said.

The shelling yesterday afternoon came in response to a series of shooting and roadside bomb attacks against IDF and South Lebanese Army troops in the security zone over the weekend. There were no casualties in any of the attacks.

The IDF Spokesman said IDF troops had opened fire at a group of armed elements moving on the outskirts of Yatar village, which is north of the security zone. The spokesman noted that terrorist activities have emanated from the area in the past, including shooting at the IDF and SLA.

The statement said that, according to Lebanese press reports, Lebanese civilians had been killed as a result of the IDF shelling. The statement said the IDF was investigating the matter.

The announcement noted that Hizbullah gunmen had carried out mortar and sniper attacks on IDF and SLA positions over the weekend in the zone's eastern and central sectors. Hizbullah had also planted roadside bombs along routes used by IDF and SLA soldiers.

Military sources said that, in response to the threats issued by Nasrallah, the IDF was taking all necessary precautions to protect the Galilee.

UNIFIL spokesman Timur Goksel said the Lebanese civilians who were

killed yesterday were known to members of the international peacekeeping force. He said they had been working for the past fortnight on a Lebanese government project to construct a water tank in the Yatar village area.

They had been escorted to and from the work site by soldiers from UNIFIL's Nepalese battalion, which has a position in the area.

Goksel said the Nepalese soldiers were not in the area at the time of the incident, in which two of the workers were killed and a third was badly wounded.

According to reports from Lebanon, the Amal Shi'ite movement has com-

(Continued on Page 4)



Hamas students flee Palestinian police yesterday at An-Najah University in Nablus. Some 500 policemen raided the campus to disperse students protesting against arrests by the Palestinian Authority.

## PA Police raids Hamas student rally

PLO police yesterday fired bullets and tear gas to disperse Hamas students at a Najah University rally in Nablus.

Witnesses said about 500 police entered the campus and fired bullets in the air and teargas to disperse hundreds of Hamas activists protesting at the arrests of the group's members by the Palestinian Authority. They said two protesters were arrested and three treated for tear gas inhalation.

"There was a rally organized by the students' union in which Hamas people were criticizing [President Yasser] Arafat and his [Palestinian] Authority for arresting Hamas activists," a Hamas activist at the rally said.

"Suddenly, policemen entered the campus and started beating up people with clubs and tried to disperse them by shooting

in the air and firing tear gas," he said.

A senior Palestinian official said Arafat later ordered an investigation into the raid. Arafat's own faction within the Palestine Liberation Organization was involved in the fighting with police.

"Members of Arafat's Fatah faction condemned the raid and clashed with Palestinian police on campus," said a Fatah member.

In response to the raid university officials called a two-day strike to protest against what they said was illegal action taken by the police.

The Palestinian Police, at the urging of Israel, has arrested hundreds of Islamic activists since a series of suicide bombings, starting on February 25, killed 58 people in Israel. Hamas's military wing has claimed responsibility for three of the attacks.

An-Najah University is the largest university in the West Bank, with 7,000 students enrolled. Palestinian sources have said it is a base for Hamas activities.

Hamas runs schools and social services in the Palestinian-run areas and the authority has only banned its military wing, Izzadin Kassam.

"Hamas students were using microphones to incite against the Palestinian Authority and there is no place where Palestinian police are barred from entering to maintain security," a police official said. "Police were just doing their job and we will not allow anyone, regardless of who they are, to tamper with security."

Palestinian police hit a Reuters television cameraman trying to film the clashes and other photographers said they had their film confiscated.

## Donors to hold emergency meeting on aid to Palestinian Authority

DONOR countries will hold an emergency meeting in Brussels on April 12 to address the "special Palestinian economic needs" resulting from the closure of the territories, a senior US official said Friday.

Invitations will be sent out by Norway, which serves as chairman of the ad-hoc liaison committee of the donor nations.

"I daresay that we will look at tackling the donors' economic support more broadly," the official told reporters at the conclusion of a two-day counter-terrorism conference here.

State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns said the US will put "substantial pressure" on governments that have not yet fulfilled their 1993 pledges to do so.

The news was a by-product of the conference that was comprised of the same 29 nations that convened in Sharm e-Sheikh two weeks ago to address the terrorism that hit Israel and its threat to the peace process.

Security and political officials met here in four working groups to discuss cooperative counter-terrorism measures that the US will compile into a report to be sent to each capital in the coming days.

The Palestinians, Egyptians, and Europeans succeeded to a large degree in forcing onto the conference's agenda the economic losses sustained in the territories due to the closure, imposed after the wave of suicide bombings.

Participants discussed the "very urgent need" for training personnel in counterterrorism in the region, with a "special emphasis" on extending such training to the Palestinian Authority, a second official said.

They also discussed preventing terrorist fund-raising, tightening border controls and combating forged travel documents.

There was also "considerable discussion" of the closure issue, but the fact terrorism threats could be discussed in a "professional manner... without any political speeches" indicates the progress that has been made "not only in the peace process, but how the world looks at terrorism," the second official said.

He stated that security cooperation between Israel and many Arab countries would likely de-

## Islamic Jihad: Senior Palestinian officials support suicide attacks

DOUGLAS DAVIS LONDON

ISLAMIC Jihad leader Ramadan Abdallah Shallah has pledged that his organization will continue to launch suicide attacks against Israelis to create "a balance of terror."

He said that despite the Palestinians Authority's "collaboration" with Israel his organization would not encourage intra-Palestinian rifts, adding that "senior officials, not just ordinary members of the authority," personally support suicide attacks against Israel.

"If the Jews had remained in New York, Poland or Russia, we would not have thought of taking up arms against them," the Damascus-based terror leader said. "But for them to come to Jerusalem..."

(Continued on Page 4)

## Peres: Lebanese civilians killed by mistake

DAVID MAKOVSKY

PRIME Minister Shimon Peres confirmed last night that Israel had apologized for the killing "by mistake" of two Lebanese civilians north of the security zone yesterday.

Peres made his remarks after an address at Tel Aviv University's Dayan Center for Middle East Studies conference on Islam, "Between Jihad and Peace."

The move was seen as an attempt by the prime minister to head off a reprisal by Hizbullah against northern Israel. Peres said he saw no reason why there should be any tension in the North.

According to the US-brokered understandings in the wake of 1993's Operation Accountability, Israel is prohibited from targeting civilians north of the security zone. As long as Israel adheres to these understandings, Hizbullah is supposed to refrain from launching Katyushas at the Galilee.

The last Katyusha attack into northern Israel was on December 29, causing damage but no casualties. An attack on November 28 wounded several Israelis and damaged buildings.

US diplomats had previously voiced concern that Syria may seek to beat up the North in a bid to trigger an Israeli reprisal to coincide with the Sharm e-Sheikh follow-up conference in Washington, thereby embarrassing Arafat states at the discussions.

In a statement published by his office, Peres said: "Israel this evening requested from the Americans to act with the Syrians and through them with Hizbullah in order to maintain the calm on the northern border. This, following the killing of two Lebanese civilians from the fire of IDF forces."

Lebanon meanwhile said it would not halt attacks by Hizbullah against IDF forces in south Lebanon as long as they remained there.

## Vacation sites in North close; guests asked to leave

DAVID RUDGE

ALL vacation sites, including the Canada Center sports and recreation complex, have been closed and guests staying in hotels and boarding houses have been asked to leave because of the security situation in the North, Menalla local council chairman Yossi Goldberg said last night.

"The confrontation line settlements have been put on emergency status and all necessary precautions have been taken," Goldberg said.

He said the situation in the region in the past few weeks and over the years has cost residents, businesses and the local authorities tens of millions of dollars in lost work hours and earnings.

Reports said hotels and guest houses had received dozens of calls from vacationers canceling their Pessah bookings because of the security situation.

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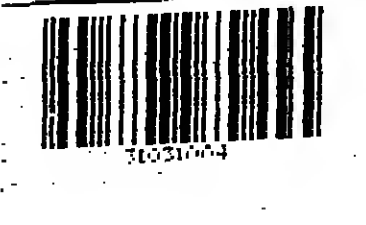
WEATHER

AROUND THE WORLD

TRAVEL EXPERTS

BOOKS

9





**WEATHER**

Golden 8-14  
Haifa 11-19  
Tiberias 11-19  
Afula 10-19  
Sameria 9-15  
Jerusalem 9-15  
Beer Sheva 8-20  
Dead Sea 13-23

Forecast: Partly cloudy to clear, cooler.

**AROUND THE WORLD**

City	Low	High	Cloud
Amsterdam	10	14	partly
Berlin	10	14	partly
Buenos Aires	10	14	partly
Cairo	10	14	partly
Chicago	10	14	partly
Copenhagen	10	14	partly
Frankfurt	10	14	partly
Geneva	10	14	partly
Hamburg	10	14	partly
Hong Kong	10	14	partly
London	10	14	partly
Los Angeles	10	14	partly
Madrid	10	14	partly
Moscow	10	14	partly
Munich	10	14	partly
New York	10	14	partly
Paris	10	14	partly
Rome	10	14	partly
Stockholm	10	14	partly
Tokyo	10	14	partly
Toronto	10	14	partly
Vienna	10	14	partly
Zurich	10	14	partly

**Winning cards**

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the ace of spades, eight of hearts, jack of diamonds and seven of clubs.

## Land Day passes quietly in Arab sector

ISRAELI Arabs yesterday marked the 20th anniversary of Land Day quietly, with no disturbances reported.

Municipal services in towns and villages throughout the country were shut down for the day, although schools and businesses were open as usual.

Memorial parades and services were held in the Galilee, the Triangle and the Negev for the six people killed when the first Land Day demonstrations, in March 1976, erupted in violent clashes between protesters and the security forces.

Hundreds of people attended the main service in Arrabe in Lower Galilee where, according to Reuters, calls were made for end to the closure of the territories and Palestinian flags were raised, as were banners that read "Free Palestinian Land."

It was in the Arrabe, Deir Hanna and Sakhnin region that the heaviest of the rioting broke out, as thousands of Arabs demonstrated against state expropriation of their land.

There have been violent outbursts on Land Day since then, although in the past few years the event has passed quietly.

The first two hours of lessons in Arab schools yesterday were devoted to the Land Day issue and its significance, coupled with discussions on democracy and the peace process.

In Bethlehem, 200 protesters, mostly women and children, staged a march to protest against Israeli land confiscations and the closure. The group scuffled with Palestinian police who created a human shield to prevent the group from reaching an IDF checkpoint at the outskirts of the city.

Bethlehem municipal officials told Reuters they had been informed by Israel of a plan to confiscate 7,000 dunams of land from Bethlehem and two surrounding villages for road construction. No Israeli confirmation was immediately available.

## Industrial robots at Bloomfield Museum

A display of industrial robots is on exhibit at the Bloomfield Science Museum in Jerusalem until April 15. The Israeli-made machines separate defective coins from good ones, paint signs, clean a swimming pool, keep order in warehouses and perform other tasks automatically. Visitors will learn how robots work but won't be able to touch them. The museum will have extended hours during the Pessah vacation. *Judy Siegel*

# Labor kicks off campaign today

MICHAL YUDELMAN

BEGINNING today the official kick-off of Labor's election campaign hundreds of Labor youth are to accompany Prime Minister Shimon Peres on all his public appearances, while thousands of young activists take part in demonstrations supporting Peres throughout the country.

Two opinion polls published Friday showed Peres leading Likud challenger Binyamin Netanyahu exactly two months before national elections.

A Dabraf poll for *Yedioth Aharonot* gave Peres 51 percent of the vote to 45 percent for Netanyahu, with 4 percent having no preference. Last week Dabraf put Peres ahead 49% to 47%. The poll of 503 Israelis had a 4% margin of error.

A Gallup poll of 574 Israelis for *Ma'ariv* put Peres ahead 48 percent to 40 percent, while 12 percent gave no preference. Last week 49 percent picked Peres and 43 percent Netanyahu. The margin of error was also 4 percent.

Labor is to launch its campaign with a festive convention of its central committee at Beit Berl this afternoon. After summing up the primaries, the main issue of discussion is expected to be resolving the absence of representation for Russian new immigrants on the list.

Party leaders are expected to find a solution to the problem, although so far no alternative suggested seems plausible. The idea of upgrading veteran immigrant Ronen Plaut from slot 45 does not seem realistic, since its approval requires a party convention. Moreover, it may lead to legal appeals by candidates damaged by the move.

Labor's campaign will be based on security and peace, presenting Peres as "Mr. Security and Mr. Peace," as reflected in the slogan, "A Strong Israel with Peres."

The campaign will promote separation from the Palestinians as the party's recipe for security and peace between neighbors, while

emphasizing that the Likud's objection to separation means stopping the peace process and returning to Gaza and evacuated parts of the territories.

Campaign sources yesterday expressed satisfaction with what they called the young, hawkish new leadership elected in the primaries, including Ehud Barak (slot No. 3), Housing Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer (4), Ori Orr (10), and Efraim Sneh (8), saying this would make it easier to market the campaign's security message.

Campaign information head Interior Minister Haim Ramon said yesterday that the dispute between himself and campaign chairman Ben-Eliezer is over and will not prevent them from leading Labor's campaign together.

Ramon had accused Ben-Eliezer of making 'deals' against him in the primaries and excluding him from lists, and threatened to get back at him.

"We are grownups, and we're working together," Ramon said over the weekend. "The same day I said those things to Fuad [Ben-Eliezer], we sat together for an hour and a half and planned how to win the elections."

Ramon last week appointed Shimon Sheves director of the information campaign. Sheves, who was a close aide of prime minister Yitzhak Rabin, had worked with Ramon and Ben-Eliezer in running Labor's 1992 campaign.

Tourism Minister Uzi Baram, who shot ahead to second place in the primaries after Peres, is expected to join the campaign staff.

On Friday, flanked by artists and intellectuals, Peres launched his campaign for reelection with a pledge to bring peace to the Middle East in his next term, speaking to thousands of supporters at Tel Aviv's Mann Auditorium. "The nation is with Peres," read a banner on stage, next to a poster of Rabin.



New OC Central Command Maj.-Gen. Uzi Dayan (right) shakes hands with his predecessor, Maj.-Gen. Ilan Biran, at the changeover ceremony on Friday at Central Command headquarters. (Ariel Jermolinski)

## Uzi Dayan takes over Central Command

MAJ.-GEN. Uzi Dayan has taken over as OC Central Command, beginning today his first week of a posting that is being transformed by the Israel-PLO peace accord he helped draft.

Dayan, the nephew of Moshe Dayan, is known for his intellect, and brings with him a rich resume combining combat experience and methodological insight.

Like Chief of Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak, Dayan gained his early combat experience, as a commander and later head of the Sayeret Matkal, the General Staff's reconnaissance unit. He also commanded an armored division.

But Dayan also comes to the Central Command from three years as head of the General Staff Planning Branch, where he was responsible for consolidating long-range goals and navigating their implementation through the ponderous IDF machine.

Armed with university degrees in mathematics, physics and operations research, he inherits a command with a reputation of stunting

over 450 Arab villages. Biran also commanded the evacuations last summer of Jewish settlers from hilltops where settlers said they wanted to build. The confrontations brought the command into sometimes angry conflict with the settlers.

Dayan, highly respected in the IDF, takes over the position he helped mold as head of the security delegation which forged the peace agreements with the Palestinians and the Jordanians.

The promotion for Dayan is seen as a de rigueur step toward possible command of the IDF in the future. No chief of staff has ever reached that post without having led either the northern, central, or southern commands.

IDF observers say Dayan is a professional who gets down to the details without losing sight of the overall picture. He is said to be flexible, a facet bound to aid him as head of the command which is bearing the brunt of the war against Hamas, on the one hand, and forging working ties with the Palestinian forces, on the other.

RIEHL O'SULLIVAN

The headquarters is named for OC Central Command Maj.-Gen. Nehemia Tamari, killed in 1993 when his helicopter crashed after hitting an antenna while trying to land in poor visibility.

Biran decided a year ago to step out of the race for chief of staff and is retiring from the military.

Under Biran, the Central Command saw the IDF withdraw from contact with the majority of the one million Palestinians in Judea and Samaria. During his two years in command, some 7,000 Palestinian police moved into the West Bank and he oversaw the redeployment out of seven Palestinian towns and establishment of shared control

## Couple shot after car runs down policeman

THE Justice Ministry's police investigation division is probing the Jaffa shooting by police Friday evening of a man and woman whose car ran down a policeman as it failed to stop at a routine police roadblock.

Driver Eli Eliasi, 26, and passenger Rena Ben-Shushan, 35, were listed in serious and satisfactory condition at Sheba and Wolfson hospitals last night, after the incident on Jaffa's Kedem Street.

Ayalon district police were manning a routine roadblock to check drivers' licenses and suspicious vehicles, when they flagged down Eliasi's car. The car slowed as if to stop, but just as policeman Ya'acov Cohen drew near, it sped away, knocking him down, said police.

Cohen and his partner fired five shots, hitting Eliasi in the head and Ben-Shushan in the chest. Cohen was recovering in satisfactory condition last night in Wolfson Hospital from fractured vertebrae.

Another passenger in the back of the car escaped unhurt.

Ayalon police chief Dep.-Cmdr. Mordechai Nahmani said the policemen thought the three were terrorists, and opened fire only after the driver hit Cohen. The car was not stolen, and Eliasi had all necessary documents.

The three are known to police, but under questioning the injured passenger reportedly said he did not understand why Eliasi did not stop. Nothing illegal was found in the car.

Nahmani said after a preliminary probe that the policemen "behaved correctly." However, police admitted they did not shoot at the tires, but at the vehicle. The policemen in question will continue to report for duty pending the outcome of the ministry investigation. The Tel Aviv police will also hold their own internal inquiry. (Reuters)

## Woman soldier killed in motorcycle accident

RAVIT Ohayon, a 19-year-old soldier from Haifa, was killed yesterday afternoon and her girlfriend seriously injured when the motorcycle they were riding collided with a car. Four people in the car were lightly hurt.

Ohayon, the passenger, was thrown from the motorcycle when it struck a car turning into Kibbutz Elon. Kibbutz members and Magen David Adom medics were unable to save her.

In Wadi Ara, a 10-year-old boy was killed when he was struck by a car while crossing the highway. In Risbon Lezion yesterday, five people suffered light to moderate injuries when their car overturned near the city's Gan Havradim junction.

Friday night, five-year-old Ma'ayan Amsalem was seriously injured when she was hit by a car in Netanya.

Two people were injured Friday, one moderately, while jet skiing off Herzliya beach.

Last week 10 persons were killed and 15 injured in road accidents throughout the country. Since the beginning of the year, 116 people have been killed on the roads. (Itim)

## PA calls for UN session on closure

News agencies

THE Palestinian Authority has called for an immediate session of the UN Security Council to address the closure on the West Bank and Gaza Strip. PA Information Minister Yasser Abed-Rabbo said yesterday.

"We think the closure against the Palestinian Authority and against the Palestinian people, the confiscation of land is a kind of declaration of war against the Palestinian people," Abed-Rabbo said after the weekly cabinet meeting.

The PA also called on the Arab League "to support the Palestinian position for convening the meeting of the security council," Rabbo said.

The president of the World Bank promised the PA \$20 million in immediate aid yesterday, to help overcome the economic effects of the month-long closure.

World Bank President James Wolfensohn, who met with PA President Yasser Arafat in Gaza, said the emergency aid package would be in addition to another \$70 million awaiting bank approval.

"We are working... immediately on the disbursement of \$20 million, we are looking to the bank itself to approve in the next 60 days to send \$70 million," Wolfensohn said at a news conference with Arafat.

Arafat described the meeting as "positive and successful," and said Wolfensohn pledged to "give us immediate support."

The two men met after the cabinet session. Wolfensohn will meet Israeli officials today.

In another development, the PA threatened yesterday to stop importing Israeli goods, in response to the ban on thousands of Palestinian workers from going to their jobs in Israel.

"The economy goes both ways. The Palestinian Authority, therefore, has decided that as long as Israel rejects Palestinian workers, we do not need Israeli goods," said PA secretary-general Tayeb Abdel-Rahim.

"We have to reconsider the import process with Israel along the conditions imposed on the Palestinian Authority, particularly since the prices of Israeli goods are four times higher than international prices," Abdel-Rahim said.

## PA police release head of criminal investigations

PALESTINIAN security forces released the head of the Palestinian Police criminal investigations unit in Gaza yesterday after two days of questioning, a senior security official said.

"Col. Talal Abu Zeid was released after he was detained for questioning," the senior security official said. He refused to elaborate on the reason for the detention.

The criminal investigations unit has been active in the Palestinian Authority's crackdown on Islamic militants since the recent wave of suicide bombings. (Reuters)

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## ANNOUNCEMENT

The offices of the National Institutions - the World Zionist Organization and the Jewish Agency for Israel - across the country, will be closed on Hol Hamoed Pessah, from Thursday, April 4, 1996, until Wednesday, April 10, 1996. Immigrant support and information centers of the Department of Immigrant Absorption will be operating on Hol Hamoed Pessah, except on Erev Hag, as follows:

Ashdod - 1 Shovel Zion St.	Tel. 08-8565873	Hours: 7:30 - 1:00, except Friday
Haifa - 131 Hameginim St.	Tel. 04-8565047	Hours: 8:00 - 1:00, except Friday
Kiryat Yam - Pinhas Sapir St.	Tel. 04-8510351	Hours: 8:00 - 1:00, except Friday
Acra - 35 Weizmann St.	Tel. 04-8771658	Hours: 8:00 - 1:00, except Friday
Beer Sheva - 1 Henrietta Szold St.	Tel. 07-295606	Hours: 8:00 - 1:00, except Friday
Jerusalem - 3 Ben Shimon St.	Tel. 02-246522	Hours: 8:00 - 1:00, except Friday
Tel Aviv - 5 Esther Hamalla St.	Tel. 03-5224330	Closed over Hol Hamoed

The Jewish Agency warehouses and cargo release facility in Tarzifin will be closed.

The staff of the National Institutions wish the whole House of Israel a happy holiday.

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an international newspaper distributed in 103 countries on 6 continents in English and French. Over 500,000 readers.

هذا من الالاص



PA calls for UN session on closure



Reuma Weizman (left) admires illustrations Friday for books by Egyptian children's author Afaf Abdul Bari (center) displayed by artist Faridi Awis. The two came to Israel to participate in a program sponsored by Weizman to encourage reading. (Flash 90)

# Reform Movement endorses civil homosexual union, but skirts religious issue

**THE American Reform** rabbinic last week endorsed civil marriages for homosexuals, although it skirted the issue of whether the marriages are religiously sanctioned. The resolution of the rabbinic organization, the Central Conference of American Rabbis, also did not mention rabbinic officiation at same-sex marriages, leaving the measure without practical impact. However, the resolution widened the chasm between the Reform and Conservative movements, which have had an uneasy alliance as both pursue recognition in Israel. Observers noted that the Israeli and American versions of Reform Judaism have different practices, and the Israelis are not bound by the decisions of their American counterparts. Nonetheless, they said, it is increasingly difficult for the Reform movement to make headway in Israel when the Americans seem so "radical." National Religious Party chairman Ze'evulun Hammer said

MARILYN HENRY  
NEW YORK

the conference's decision "is just additional proof that this 'progressive movement' has invented its own modern religion and has pushed itself to the fringes of Judaism." Same-sex marriages are not recognized under civil law in any state, and a number of states have specifically outlawed such unions. Hawaii is considering legislation that would legalize them. The Reform resolution, which was passed by the conference's assembly on Thursday, supports "the right of gay and lesbian couples to share fully and equally in the rights of civil marriage... and oppose[s] governmental efforts to ban gay and lesbian marriage." It paves the way for the conference to vote on single-sex marriage officiation, possibly next year. Conservative rabbis do not perform "commitment

ceremonies." "The question of whether gay and lesbian marriages should be recognized by the state is the issue here," said Rabbi Simeon Maslin, president of the conference. "It has nothing to do with what we consider the religious aspect." Many observers called that "bait-splitting." There are 1.4 million members in the Reform movement. The conference represents 1,750 Reform rabbis. Unlike the Conservative movement, the Reform movement ordains gay and lesbian rabbis, and the issue of same-sex marriage is of great significance to some of the rabbis themselves. Two years ago, the congregational arm of the Reform group, the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, called on government at all levels to provide the means of legally acknowledging "committed lesbian and gay partnerships."

# Protests aim to prevent closure of major cultural institutions

HELEN KAYE

STAGES and concert halls may go dark for a night in protest, but more than a dozen veteran cultural institutions are threatened with permanent closure unless the government honors its budget commitments. "Unless the government acts immediately to honor its 1996 budget commitments, the Israel Philharmonic, the Batsheva Dance Company, the Beersheva and Beit Liessin theaters, the Israel and the Tel Aviv Museum are among many of the country's cultural institutions which may collapse," said attorney Eli Zohar at an emergency meeting at Tel Aviv's Tzavta on Friday. The 1996 target arts budget was NIS 436 million. The actual budget made available to the Arts and Culture Authority (ACA) was NIS 277m, which was immediately cut by NIS 9m. Government funding of all cultural institutions, including libraries, cinema and the plastic arts is 0.1% of the total budget. Zohar, who heads an action committee which convened earlier this month to find a solution to the crisis, has asked for an immediate meeting with Prime Minister Shimon Peres and Finance Minister Avraham Shohat in a final effort to restore the missing funds. "Theaters, dance companies, museums, libraries and our orchestras are fighting to exist, let alone develop. If our cultural institutions go, there is no culture," he stressed. Some 200 people, including the heads of most of the country's cultural institutions, attended the stormy meeting called to discuss ways to force the government to act. Plans include the erecting of a large tent opposite the Knesset to alert the public, lobbying candidates from all parties and even the mass resignation of the entire public arts council.

# Egypt asks US not to send Abu Marzook to Israel

MARILYN HENRY  
NEW YORK

EGYPT has reportedly asked the United States not to extradite Hamas political leader Mousa Mobammed Abn Marzook to Israel, Abu Marzook's lawyer said Friday. The Egyptian Foreign Ministry made the request last week in a letter to the State Department, attorney Stanley Cohen said. The lawyer said he had not seen the letter, which was reported in al-Hayat. According to the newspaper account, Cairo contends that Abu Marzook's extradition could have a

"destabilizing" effect in the region, Cohen said. In its extradition request, Israel said Abu Marzook, head of Hamas' political bureau, was personally linked in several terrorist bombings. He was also alleged to have raised money for Hamas, including funds for arms, and to have overseen the recruitment of terrorists. Abu Marzook, 45, contends that, as head of the political

bureau, he has no authority over Izzadin Kassam, the military wing of Hamas. He has been detained in the US since July. In proceedings in federal court, Cohen argued the defense should be allowed to call former Palestinian spokesman Hanan Ashrawi and Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat as witnesses for Abu Marzook. The US government has countered that their testimony is irrelevant. The court is expected to rule on the witnesses on April 17.

# Britain hopeful of end to mad cow beef ban

PATRICIA REANEY  
LONDON

BRITAIN held out hope yesterday that a worldwide ban on its beef over fears of Mad Cow disease would be lifted as tens of thousands of workers in the country's beef industry faced job losses. Prime Minister John Major returned from a European summit in Turin buoyed by political support he received from other leaders following a crisis that left Britain's four billion pound (NIS 18 billion) beef industry teetering on the verge of collapse. European farm ministers will meet tomorrow to discuss the ban and a rescue plan involving the slaughter of hundreds of thousands of cattle. Whatever they decide will be contingent on Britain assuring them it has tackled the problem and contamination is no longer a threat. Global alarm was sparked by reports that a fatal brain disorder can jump across species from cattle to people. British scientists say they found an apparent link between bovine spongiform encephalopathy (Mad Cow disease) and its human form,

Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD) which turns sufferers into spongy-brained dementia victims. But the British government insists beef here is safe, despite a worldwide ban imposed by the European Union. "It is certainly my hope that it (the ban) will be lifted speedily. At this stage we have several ingredients to deal with before we can reach agreement with the commission," Major told reporters. The British leader denied that he had made any deals over his government's policy on Europe because of the beef crisis. "Governments have to deal with crises when they occur. We don't have the luxury of saying we have a program. We can issue press releases, we can denounce the government of the day. We have to deal with events and that is often more difficult," he said in an interview with BBC radio. The international scare over

mad cow diseases erupted after Britain acknowledged on March 20 a likely link between BSE and CJD, its deadly human equivalent. Ten people are thought to have died from an apparently new form of CJD, possibly after eating infected beef. What started out as a scare 10 days ago snowballed into an international panic with countries as far afield as China and Cambodia taking measures to ensure British beef does not enter its borders. The crisis has sent beef prices into a nosedive and has threatened tens of thousands of jobs in the beef industry. The Meat and Livestock Commission, which promotes meat, said more than 250,000 people are employed in various aspects of the beef trade. "Potentially if the right things aren't done soon it could be totally devastating for the industry," Phil Saunders, a spokesman for the commission, told Reuters. "We need to assure people that BSE is being dealt with and not in the meat they are eating." (Reuters)

# Bangladesh parliament dissolved

DHAKA (AP) - Bowing to unrelenting public pressure, Prime Minister Khaleda Zia resigned yesterday and dissolved Parliament for a new election in May. "I am no more the prime minister. I have transferred power constitutionally and I want fresh elections to be held in May," Mrs. Zia told a public rally of more than 50,000 supporters in Dhaka, the Bangladesh capital. Her resignation paved the way for a neutral interim government to supervise fresh elections within 90 days. The main opposition parties had boycotted the national elections held in February. Former Supreme Court Chief Justice Mohammad Habibur Rahman has been invited by the president to form an 11-member Council of Advisors. President Abdur Rahman Biswas ordered the dissolution of Parliament after receiving a written request from the premier. Her letter of resignation was carried to the president by Ogi Ahmed, a cabinet minister.

Mrs. Zia agreed this week to step down in favor of a caretaker government to end a two-year standoff with the opposition. Opposition forces had warned Prime Minister Khaleda Zia against trying to cling to power, as public demonstrations - even the electricians in the parliament - mounted pressure on her to quit. Police yesterday fired tear gas to disperse nearly 3,000 protesters outside Dhaka's Central Jail demanding the release of deposed President Hussain Muhammad Ershad. Ershad is serving a 9-year jail term after being convicted for corruption and abuse of power. Eyewitnesses said at least 60 people were injured, including Ershad's wife, Roushan, and former ministers Anwar Hussain Manjil and Zafar Imam. They are top leaders of the opposition Jatiya Party. Police said they fired tear gas after the protesters exploded several crude bombs, creating panic

in the area. Reports yesterday said one person was killed in clashes between pro- and anti-government activists in the town of Barisal, 120 km south of Dhaka. Yesterday Biswas formally announced that former chief justice, Mohammad Habibur Rahman, will be the caretaker prime minister until elections are held. Justice Rahman will now appoint 10 advisers to assist him, the president was quoted as saying by BSS news agency. With Mrs. Zia quickly losing control, she abandoned her plan to have one last session of Parliament today. Staff at the parliament building decided to join the 1.3 million civil servants who have responded to the opposition's call not to work, said Mubiddin Khan Alamgir, spokesman of the Action Council of the Employees of the Republic. "There will be no electricity, no water, no microphones," said a member of the parliament staff.

# Serbia gives Srebrenica witnesses to UN court

SARAJEVO (Reuters) - Serbia has handed over two witnesses to the slaughter of thousands of unarmed Muslim men when Bosnian Serbs overwhelmed the "safe haven" of Srebrenica. The UN war crimes tribunal said yesterday the witnesses were taken into custody in The Hague, where the court sits. Meanwhile Croatia said that Bosnian Croat General Tihomir Blaskic would also surrender to UN prosecutors tomorrow to face war crimes charges. The steps, both taken under American pressure, represented a breakthrough for the war crimes court which has struggled to obtain cooperation from the former warring sides in Bosnia. The witnesses provided by Serbia were former Bosnian Serb Army (BSA) troopers Drazen Erdemovic and Radoslav Kremenovic who told the French newspaper Figaro they took part in the massacre in July 1995.

Erdemovic, a Croat, claimed he was forced to take part in the killing of 1,200 Muslim men, whose bodies were buried in mass graves, or be shot himself. The court said Erdemovic and Kremenovic, a Bosnian Serb, were currently held as witnesses but it did not rule out their facing charges later. They were arrested by Serbia after their Figaro interview and Belgrade authorities said they intended to try them at home in an apparent attempt to prevent them testifying in The Hague. But the US government insisted they be turned over and their evidence is expected to flesh out evidence of the killings which

said to have been obtained by US aerial surveillance. Between 3,000 and 8,000 Srebrenica men are believed to have been killed by the BSA to prevent them rejoining Bosnian government forces elsewhere. Bosnian Serb "president" Radovan Karadzic and BSA commander General Ratko Mladic were also indicted by the court but have eluded arrest.

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Zulus defend right to arms

DURBAN (AP) - A peaceful march by thousands of Zulus wielding clubs and spears in defiance of government orders was described yesterday as a victory for Zulu culture.

Mangosuthu Buthelezi launched the local elections campaign of his Zulu Inkatha Freedom Party with praise for a march in Johannesburg that many had feared would end in bloodshed.

"It is a victory," Buthelezi told a news conference, saying that President Nelson Mandela's security forces "cannot stop Zulus from their God-given power to carry cultural accoutrements."

Meanwhile, the leader of the rival ANC in KwaZulu-Natal province told a party meeting that he had information a hit squad was planning to attack local ANC leaders over Easter.

ANC KwaZulu-Natal boss Jacob Zuma did not mention Inkatha by name, but violence between the two groups has worsened in the run-up to May local elections in the province.

A decade of fighting between the two parties for the loyalty of South Africa's 8 million Zulus has killed thousands. Inkatha carried KwaZulu-Natal in the historic 1994 national elections that brought the ANC to power and ended white-minority rule.

Inkatha's glossy local election campaign, managed by the British public relations firm Ian Greer and Associates, stresses the party's contention that the ANC plans to impose a socialist dictatorship that will swamp Zulu culture.

"These local government elections are going to be the true test of whether in the end democracy will survive in South Africa," Buthelezi said.

Though he serves as home affairs minister in Mandela's national-unity government, Buthelezi has orchestrated Inkatha's boycott of the body writing a new national constitution he says will fail to grant the provincial autonomy Inkatha seeks.

What some Zulus view as ornaments of their warrior culture - spears, clubs, battle-axes, machetes - are seen by the government as dangerous weapons.

Inkatha treated a recent ban on such weapons in public meetings as a direct challenge and supporters defiantly carried them Thursday in downtown Johannesburg. Police, fearing violence, refused to disarm the marchers and weakened the government's authority.

The march marked the second anniversary of a similar Inkatha march on the eve of South Africa's first all-race elections in which some 50 people were killed, eight of them in a shootout in front of ANC headquarters in Johannesburg. Inkatha claims the government is stalling an investigation.



British soldiers Geoff Purnell (left), Justin Fowler (second left behind), and Allan Ford (center front with moustache) leave a Cypriot court where they were sentenced to life imprisonment for the killing of Danish tour guide Louise Jensen. (Reuters)

British soldiers jailed for life for 'horrendous' killing of Danish woman

THREE British soldiers were sentenced to life imprisonment for beating to death a young Danish woman they kidnapped and tried to rape after a drinking spree.

"The court has to impose the maximum sentence because this was one of the most horrendous crimes in recent Cyprus history that ruled out any mitigation and excluded any leniency," the presiding judge, Takis Eliades, said as he ended the 18-month trial.

The soldiers - Pvt. Alan Ford, 27, of Birmingham, England; Pvt. Justin Fowler, 27, of Falmouth, Cornwall; and Pvt. Jeff Purnell, 24, of Oldbury, Midlands - stood stiffly in the dock of the hushed Assize Court as the sentences were read out.

They were given life for the manslaughter of tour guide Louise Jensen, 23, of Hirtshals, Denmark, on Sept. 12, 1994.

The three were members of the Royal Greenjackets until automatically discharged from the day of their sentencing.

All were also handed five-year terms on each of two other charges, kidnapping and attempted rape, with all the sentences to run concurrently.

"We noted that the accused acted in a completely unprovoked manner and carried out one of the most horrendous crimes of recent years," Eliades declared.

"The tragic victim, alone and unprotected, had no chance whatever to defend herself effectively before the evident bodily strength of the three English soldiers."

The defendants, who had all pleaded inno-

cent, looked visibly shaken as Eliades read out the sentences. They stood with their hands clasped in front of them, staring at the floor or glancing sidelong at the three-judge panel.

They averted their eyes from Ms. Jensen's family, parents Poul and Annette, and her 18-year-old brother Soren, who were sitting in the front row of the courtroom.

Ms. Jensen's father told reporters later: "Fortunately in Cyprus, there is no capital punishment so this the hardest sentence they could get. It's the best that the family could hope for."

He said he was considering taking action against the British government because "the family feels there must a responsibility by the government when they send soldiers to a foreign country."

He said the family would examine all legal possibilities but were "not doing it for money." The soldiers were herded out of the courtroom in handcuffs after the sentencing, but said nothing. They were driven back to Nicosia Central Prison in a closed police van escorted by three carloads of armed police officers.

At the time Ms. Jensen was killed, the soldiers were serving with the Royal Greenjackets Regiment based at the British sovereign base of Dhekelia on the island's south coast.

The court rejected defense pleas for mitigation on the grounds that the soldiers were

heavily drunk when they kidnapped Ms. Jensen, then brutally bludgeoned her to death with a shovel, mutilating her head beyond recognition.

Her naked body was found in a shallow grave two days after she had been kidnapped on the outskirts of the tourist resort of Ayia Napa. She was identified by her jewelry.

The three lawyers for the defense contended that the accused could not have committed the crime had they not been drunk. Eliades said, "We disagree with this. It is completely hypothetical."

The no-jury court in this south coast resort found all three guilty after a marathon 13-hour session. They were arrested at a police roadblock 90 minutes after they kidnapped Ms. Jensen, their clothes covered in her blood.

The killing, and the gruesome details that emerged during Cyprus' longest and most sensational murder trial, shocked this largely crime-free holiday island in the east Mediterranean.

It has also fueled resentment against the presence of British military bases on the island. Britain ruled Cyprus for nearly a century until it gained its independence in 1960 after a five-year war.

The Nicosia prison where the three killers have begun their life terms has a grim history but is relatively luxurious.

In the sandstone jail built by British colonial rulers 102 years ago, each inmate has his own cell and is offered higher education, job training and meals prepared by expert chefs.

S. Korean presidential aide faces bribery trial

SEOUL (Reuters) - South Korean state prosecutors yesterday formally indicted President Kim Young-sam's close aide on charges of bribery, tarnishing Kim's anti-corruption drive only weeks ahead of general elections.

Senior prosecutor Whang Song-jin told reporters that Chang Hak-ro, who was looking after Kim's personal affairs in the presidential Blue House, was charged with accepting bribes totalling 622 million won (NIS 2.4 billion).

The money was received in return for favors to businessmen from 14 companies, including the Hyosung and Jinro groups which are among the country's top 30 conglomerates, Whang said.

Parliamentary elections on April 11 are widely seen as a mid-term test for Kim who bet his political stake on a "Mr. image. His harsh anti-corruption drive has already put ex-presidents and business

leaders on trial. Now the corruption spotlight is on Kim himself after one of his closest lieutenants is set to follow the footsteps of men he sought to punish for irregularities.

Whang said Chang, who resigned after the scandal surfaced last week, amassed a total of 2.76 million won (NIS 10.62 million) through illegal means but charges were limited to bribery.

"Apart from confirmed cases of kickbacks from businessmen, we will continue to trace financial records to find out if civil servants or executives of state-run companies handed money to Mr. Chang," said another prosecutor, asking not to be identified.

Prosecutors said the bulk of Chang's ill-gotten wealth was concealed in the form of real estate or financial assets under names of his live-in girlfriend and her relatives.

Police injured in fracas with Meshulam supporters

FIVE policemen were slightly injured while forcing Uzi Meshulam supporters to break up an illegal gathering at the Rishon LeZion police station on Friday.

Thirty-two demonstrators were arrested, including five minors. Twelve were later released, and the rest will appear in court this morning.

The incident began at 3 p.m. on Friday when some 50 Meshulam supporters arrived at the police station, demanding the names of policemen who alleged-

ly beat other supporters at a rally late Thursday night at Beit Dagan.

At Thursday's gathering, a group of Meshulam supporters distributed seditious material, including fliers against prime minister Yitzhak Rabin, police said.

Police asked them to disperse, and when they refused they were detained for questioning, and taken to the Rishon LeZion police station. There they also refused

SUICIDE

(Continued from Page 1) len, Haifa, Jaffa and Ashkelon and take over... that is something no one can accept."

In an interview to be published tomorrow in the Arabic-language weekly al-Wasaf, he said the suicide attacks were "a political and military necessity" and were unconnected to the Israeli elections.

He said young suicide bombers "compete" to participate in operations. "It is easy and costs us only our lives because as Moslems we welcome death for the sake of God and do not have Jews' attachment to life."

He was bitterly critical of the PA for inflicting the "Oslo catastrophe" on the Palestinians and he insisted there could be no peaceful settlement, saying: "Israel is an illegitimate entity created by force and terror."

KATYUSHAS

(Continued from Page 1) plained to UNIFIL that the peacekeeping force did not protect the workers properly. Goksel said UNIFIL was investigating all the circumstances of the incident.

Security sources in Lebanon noted that many of the previous incidents involving casualties among Lebanese civilians or UNIFIL personnel had occurred at weekends - apparently as a result of experienced officers and sol-

diers being off duty. Earlier yesterday, Nasrallah spoke at a memorial service for the Hizbullah suicide bomber - a resident of the security zone - who blew himself up alongside an IDF patrol, killing an officer and wounding a civilian driver just over a week ago.

Nasrallah vowed Hizbullah would continue such attacks in order to undermine Israel's economy and morale.

MISTAKE

(Continued from Page 1) Bouez told visiting French reporters in Beirut, Reuters reported. Hillel Kuttler contributed to this report.

Hobbled EU sets out on bumpy road to future

TURIN (Reuters) - Stunned by fallout from Britain's Mad Cow crisis, hobbled by unemployment and deeply split over their goals, EU leaders have set out to win back public confidence and get fit to welcome new members.

A special European Union summit pledged to work for a cohesive foreign policy, more efficient decision-making and a closer relationship with EU citizens during a year-long overhaul of the 15-nation bloc.

"The Union's political weight must be commensurate with its economic strength," the summit declared.

That could mean appointing a single person to coordinate foreign policy, equipping Europe to take military action alone if necessary and nudging the bloc further along the path to integration. But all that lies ahead in negotiations.

As a reminder of their long-term goal, the foreign ministers were joined immediately after the inaugural session of their inter-governmental conference (IGC) by counterparts from 11 would-be members from Eastern Europe and the Mediterranean.

After a concert and dinner the night before, the applicants were due to be briefed formally on the talks yesterday morning by Italian Foreign Minister Susanna Agnelli, whose country holds the EU presidency and chaired the summit.

The brief gathering was haunt-

ed by the crisis over Mad Cow disease and the EU's global ban on exports of British beef.

Dini and other leaders rallied round embattled British Prime Minister John Major, mounting a concerted assault on the media for "hysterical" coverage of the issue and making clear that the EU was ready to provide financial aid.

Widespread fear that bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) could be transmitted to humans has shaken the entire continent's beef markets, sending prices plunging and threatening Britain's economic prospects and the government's political survival.

"The media have treated the BSE affair with astonishing flippancy, without any scientific details or knowledge, and just stirring public panic," said French President Jacques Chirac.

"We all had veal for lunch and we all ate and enjoyed it," he said.

The summit, in a high-tech congress center created from an abandoned Fiat car factory, opened the way to what are expected to be 12 months of difficult negotiations among countries with widely differing views of Europe.

German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, one of the leaders most willing to cede national sovereignty for the sake of European integration, said the success of the conference would be decisive for the future shape of the continent.

Indian police kill 21 armed Kashmiri militants

SRINAGAR (Reuters) - At least 21 separatist militants were killed yesterday in a gunbattle between police and militants who recently vacated Kashmir's holiest shrine, police said.

"There was heavy exchange of fire between the Jammu and Kashmir police and the militants who were under house arrest," a top police official told Reuters.

"We have recovered dead bodies of 21 militants, including that of Shabbir Siddiqui," said Niaz Mehmood, police chief of Srinagar, the Jammu and Kashmir state's summer capital.

Siddiqui was the leader of a faction of the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF) whose members occupied Srinagar's Hazratbal shrine on March 24.

They left the shrine on Tuesday after Indian authorities asked them to surrender or face stiff punishment.

Police said yesterday the militants, who were allowed to keep their weapons, entered a house near the shrine which police later surrounded. The house is about 50 meters from the shrine.

The Muslim Aqauq Trust, which manages Kashmir's shrines, said

the government had agreed to allow the militants to walk out of the shrine with their weapons. But the government has denied that there was such an agreement.

"There was no agreement. The militants had started piling up weapons in the house nearby the shrine and we had to clean the area," an official spokesman for the Jammu and Kashmir state said.

The spokesman said the militants had forced the residents and the Muslim Aqauq Trust to suspend all religious activities and gatherings in the shrine.

Police officials said the militants were asked to vacate the house but had started firing instead, leading to the gunbattle, which started around 5:30 a.m. and lasted for about three hours.

"Only four militants and four women and a child came out," a police official said. He did not say if they left the house before shooting began or after the gunbattle had ended.

"The house has caught fire," one official said, adding that the gunbattle had ended. "The police are cleaning up the area around the shrine."

US House seeks law on Auschwitz

HILLEL KUTTLER WASHINGTON

THE House of Representatives introduced a resolution calling on Poland to prohibit any future development of the land abutting the Auschwitz concentration camp site.

The resolution, initiated by Cong. Eliot Engel (D, NY), condemns proposed development of the area as a shopping center despite last week's decision by the Krak Chemia management company to back out of such plans following an international outcry.

The Maja Foundation, which owns the land surrounding the camp, has not yet decided whether to seek another developer for the property.

The Congressional resolution notes that Poland "has a duty under international law" to enforce a ban against commercial development within a 1,600-foot radius of the camp.

It also directs that the House transmit a copy of the resolution to Polish President Aleksander Kwasniewski.

The resolution's other co-sponsors are Benjamin Gilman, Michael McNulty and Jerrold Nadler of New York; James Saxton of New Jersey and Peter Deutsch of Florida.

When should we get together? Please note next month's schedule for the Jerusalem Scrabble Club: Sunday, March 31; Thursday, April 11; Tuesday, April 16; Sunday, April 21; Tuesday, April 30. JRSLM SCRBBL CLB. In May, we return to our usual "if it's Tuesday it Must Be Scrabble" schedule. Join us for a spell-binding evening at 7:30 p.m., at the ICCY, 12 Emeq Refaim, Jerusalem. Information: 02-767967.

Change in the Operating Times of the Allenby Terminal on Erev Pessah. On April 3, 1996, the Eve of Pessah, the Allenby Terminal will close at 3 p.m. All other days there will be no change in hours. Israel Airports Authority.

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# Out of CD-ROM comes forth Torah, commentary

JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

THESE holy books should never be opened on Shabbat.

They are accessed by turning on the computer and aiming the cursor at a specific book of the Bible, a halachic commentary or responsa literature that went out of print decades or even centuries ago. Computerization of Jewish texts and source material is revolutionizing the way laymen study, rabbis prepare their sermons and rabbinical arbiters rule on halachic issues.

Two of the most important pieces of Jewish software to be produced in recent years are the second edition of Bar-Ilan University's CD-ROM Responsa Project, and ArtScroll's Stone Chumash for Computers.

In the pre-computer era, rabbis able to commit the most text to memory and able to pull relevant material out at will were regarded as the elite of the halachic world. But with everything storable on a piece of plastic, human memory is less important; the ability to assess source materials and put them in perspective is now much more highly regarded.

"Our CD-ROM will never replace a rabbi," says Prof. Amihud Amir, a computer-science expert and acting head of the Bar-Ilan Responsa Project. "The CD-ROM will give you, say, 500 articles on a certain subject in Jewish law. But these are full of disagreements with different views. You need a learned rabbi who can reconcile conflicting views."

The Bar-Ilan CD-ROM (the second edition, version 4.0, was released a few months ago) has become the largest-selling Jewish computer program in the world, according to Emanuel Fishman, head of Torah Educational Software (TES), a Jerusalem software company that has exclusive worldwide distribution rights to the Bar-Ilan disk. Although actual figures have not been disclosed, rabbis and other researchers around the world have increasingly begun to regard the disk as a major tool in their work.

"No major posek (halachic arbiter) in Israel lacks the disk or at least access to it via someone else's computer. That includes haredi rabbis who regard Bar-Ilan University itself as treif," says Amir, a former New Yorker who specializes in algorithms and is in charge of the Responsa Project until the return from sabbatical of Dr. Uri Schild.

The CD-ROM is a database with the most comprehensive collection of traditional texts available anywhere. It originated over 20 years ago, when Bar-Ilan started to collect questions and answers on halachic issues dealt with by over 100 rabbis since the 16th century, and entered them into a large mainframe computer.

These were added to source material - from the Bible, biblical commentaries, Mishna, Tosefta, the Babylonian and Jerusalem Talmuds, midrashim, the Shulhan Aruch, Mishna Brura and Mishne



Torah - covering 4,000 years of Jewish written scholarship. Users can search several hundred different texts by keying in topics or keywords.

A couple of years ago, all this data was put onto a CD-ROM. Although searches can be conducted in English, the texts are all in Hebrew, so one can't use the disk without being conversant in the language. However, that hasn't prevented non-Jewish researchers in Korea, Japan and probably the Vatican from purchasing the software, Amir says.

The latest annual upgrade of the CD-ROM costs NIS2,400 (or about \$800), which might sound expensive but is actually a bargain considering the cost of purchasing the actual bound volumes (if all were in print).

In the US, TES offers parts of the disk at lower prices; if a user wants to buy additional sections, he can do so by calling a toll-free number (1-800-925-6853). TES then gives him special code numbers, which then open previously locked sections of the disk. But since nearly all Israeli users want

access to the entire compendium, this arrangement is not available here.

The 4.0 version contains responsa writings of the late Jerusalem sage Rabbi Shlomo Zalman Auerbach, and several new volumes of responsa by former Sephardi chief rabbi Ovadia Yosef. It also has improved Windows-based search and retrieval features.

"Some new *tasafot* [supplementary writings] have been published in other places, but we found them full of errors, some of

them really egregious," notes Amir. "We have a team that goes over each text, word by word, to make sure the material is extremely accurate. It won't go into the disk unless we're sure."

Hebrew, an English, or a Hebrew-English Pentateuch text with a full linear translation (giving Hebrew on one side of the screen and English on the other). One can even change the background and print to any of a dozen colors, and the text can appear in any of several fonts and in a variety of sizes (a boon to sight-impaired users).

The appropriate haftara sections for each Torah reading are included, as are the Five Megillot. The program, suitable for PCs and Macs, also has ready-made lists, such as the 613 Commandments. The gematria feature gives the numerical equivalents of Hebrew words or verses using any of seven different methods of calculation. This feature can offer insights into the text; for example, the word *shalom* equals 376, which is matched by only one verse in the Pentateuch: "God will reign for ever and ever."

Of special benefit to users, especially those preparing homework or study material, is the note feature. The user can type his own notes in Hebrew or English. (He doesn't even need a Hebrew-language keyboard; the program lets him peek out the Hebrew on screen with his mouse.)

These can then be linked to any verse and automatically pop up when necessary.

The only shortcoming of the programs is that observant Jews can't use them on Shabbat - but this is at least partially solved by the user's ability to print out all material and read them over the Sabbath dinner table.

## How immune systems function during pregnancy

TELL ME WHY  
JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

Understand that the immune system in a pregnant woman weakens temporarily so her body does not attack the fetus as a "foreign body." If this is so, why aren't women open to all kinds of infections during pregnancy when the immune system is turned off (at least partially)? Sherry Omer.

Prof. Noah Isakov, an immunologist at the Ben-Gurion University medical school's department of microbiology, explains:

We don't know everything about the functioning of the immune system during pregnancy, but we are certain that it doesn't shut down, even partially. Scientists now believe that

the immune system in pregnant women functions normally - at least as well as that of any other person.

So why isn't the fetus, which derives from foreign tissue originating in the father, rejected by the mother as an "intruder"?

The immune system apparently works locally, in the uterus and environs, but this does not prevent it from protecting the rest of the mother's body from infection. It may also be that antigens derived from the father and which the immune system can identify are located in a place in the woman's body that the immune system doesn't reach: There is passage of liquids and blood proteins between the mother and fetus, but whole cells

don't pass through the placenta so there is no direct contact. Some researchers even suggest that labor and delivery are like graft rejection. During pregnancy, the foreign tissue isn't "recognized" by the immune system. But close to delivery, something changes to awaken the immune system and the mother's body "rejects" the fetus to expel it in labor.

I saw a beautiful rainbow one morning and took a photo of it with my ordinary 35-millimeter, semi-automatic camera. When I developed the film, the rainbow was completely faded. Why?

*Tehilla, Jerusalem.*  
David Brauner, The Jerusalem Post's photography columnist, replies:

Photographing rainbows is tricky. This may be because the ultraviolet light creates a haze, which is picked up by the film but not by the eye. We can see a rainbow much more clearly than the film does.

Timing is very important. When the sun breaks through the shower of rain, the sun must always be behind the camera. A photo of a rainbow in the early morning or late afternoon will be more successful, but one at midday won't work. Use a wide-angle lens.

A semi-automatic or automatic camera probably underexposed the film because the strong light from the sky tricked the mechanism that opens the aperture. Don't point directly at the sky, but more to the ground, in order to slightly overexpose than underexpose.

I was watching President Clinton's meeting with pupils in Tel Aviv on TV while listening to the simultaneous radio broadcast. On the radio, his words came up a split second before those on TV. Why?

Emily, Ramat Gan.  
Rafi Yehoshua, an engineer at Channel 10 explains:

involved transmissions from Tel Aviv to a satellite, from the satellite to TV House in Jerusalem and, from TV House to microwave transmitters. This process causes a split-second gap between when they actually happen and what you see and hear on the screen. Radio transmissions were transferred by phone lines, so there was no delay.

Have you always wondered about the scientific explanation for ordinary phenomena? Now you can get an answer! Mail your question to TELL ME WHY, The Jerusalem Post, POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem, or fax it to (02) 339527. Please include your first name and place of residence. Calls will not be accepted.



The fetus: A guest rather than an intruder.



Artist Ya'acov Agam holds the rainbow-embellished telecard he designed. Proceeds from their sale will go for research on juvenile-onset diabetes. The card will be sold through the Israel Association for Juvenile-Onset Diabetes. Ten thousand copies will be produced, one representing each Israeli child suffering from Type 1 diabetes.

## Weizmann staff win international contest

NEW WORLDS  
POST SCIENCE REPORTER

WEIZMANN Institute scientists have won an informal international contest for predicting how two large, convoluted protein molecules would fit together in nature. The achievement, announced in the March issue of *Nature Structural Biology*, is regarded as equivalent to putting together a three-dimensional puzzle while blindfolded.

The researchers used sophisticated computer programs called "docking" algorithms to rotate three-dimensional representations of molecules at various angles and match them against each other to see how they would fit together.

Such algorithms are used to develop new drugs and other chemicals, providing valuable insights into the nature of biological molecular complexes and cutting down on lab experiments.

A University of Alberta team headed by Dr. Michael James launched the contest by determining the structure of a molecular complex (formed when betaactinase, an enzyme that destroys penicillin-like antibiotics, binds with a protein that inhibits its function) by x-ray crystallography.

Then scientists around the world were invited to use algorithms to make their predictions. Out of 40 predictions, that of the Weizmann scientists (led by Dr. Miriam Eisenstein of the institute's molecular modeling unit) was found to be the closest match. It was based on an algorithm developed by a group of Weizmann chemists and biologists that included Prof. Ephraim Katzir (Israel's fourth president).

Since the buildup of resistance to antibiotics among bacteria is seriously reducing the effectiveness of these drugs around the world, the solution to this problem using algorithms is regarded as an important way of eventually neutralizing such resistance.

## Beat-up machines can still serve

ON LINE  
DANIEL BAUM

SO, you've just bought yourself a brand new Pentium with all the latest gadgets? What do you do with your battered old 286 that served you for the last 10 years?

Or maybe you've got an old computer with a non-standard operating system for which nobody makes programs anymore. Here's a suggestion for the more adventurous readers.

The Linux operating system is a free Unix clone, available on the Internet and on CD-ROMs, and, as such is not only a 32-bit multitasking operating system like OS/2, it is also multi-user, meaning that users can log on from terminals other than the actual PC that the system is installed on. (I am currently logged on to my computer via my very elderly Atari ST, which is running Lynx, the text-based WWW browser, and downloading a fairly big file from the Internet.)

It is not quite accurate to say that the ST is running Lynx. The ST is actually running a simple communications program, and is simply displaying the Linux console. The Lynx program is actually running on my PC, while I write this column on a different console.

The ST is connected to the PC by a simple serial cable, which costs less than NIS 30. This not only has great potential, it transcends the definition of a "personal" computer, taking as back full

circle to the days when computers were big, and you logged onto them via dumb terminals. This is similar to the much-touted concept of Internet terminals, which are diskless boxes whose sole purpose is to log into the Internet. Similarly, you can set the system to allow logging in via a modem, in exactly the same way as logging into an Internet "shell" account.

This is done by means of a program called Getty, which Linux uses to accept log-ons from users. It watches the serial ports, and then when you run the terminal emulator program on the remote terminal, sends a log-on prompt.

Similarly, it can answer a modem and send the data down the modem line.

Linux communicates with the computer's console - i.e. the monitor - in exactly the same way, but by an internal connection rather than by the serial ports.

Configuration of the terminal connection is pretty simple. In fact, the Slackware Linux distribution comes with everything set up so that you just have to "uncomment" a couple of lines in the relevant configuration file.

Setting up the modem connection is somewhat less trivial, as you have to have a pretty intimate knowledge of how your modem

works. Once everything is set up, you simply turn on your terminal computer, and load up the communications software. Linux will send a log-on prompt to the terminal, and you can start working.

This approach works fine with text-based applications, but what if you want to run a GUI-based program from a remote terminal? This can be done too, but it is not free, and can't run on any old outdated computer.

The X-Windows system, the Unix graphical user interface, consists of two halves, the client and the server. These halves can be running on different computers, meaning that an X-Windows program can run on one computer, and display its window on another.

There are programs available for Microsoft Windows which allow you to do this, in a way analogous to that in which you can run a text-based application on a Linux computer and view it on a remote system running a terminal emulator. These programs are pretty expensive, so you would need to have a pretty good reason to buy one; they're not the kind of thing an amateur would buy simply for the gratification of seeing it work. While all this is not the kind of thing that your average user would attempt, it would be a worthwhile project for a more intrepid hobbyist.

Daniel Baum can be contacted by e-mail on dbaum@nevision.net.il

## Lawsuits frighten the doctor away

HEALTH SCAN  
POST HEALTH REPORTER

FEWER young doctors are interested in studying the specialty of obstetrics/gynecology because of the growing number of lawsuits and great expense of liability insurance, according to Dr. Yoram Blachar, chairman of the Israel Medical Association (IMA).

At a recent conference on "Defensive Medicine," Blachar said that the situation in the US, in which doctors perform unnecessary tests and procedures to reduce the risk of malpractice suits, will inevitably reach Israel, even if not to the same extent as in the litigious US.

Defensive medicine, he said, means the effort to avoid taking risks in medical treatment by sending patients to undergo superfluous and expensive tests and operations.

There is also a positive side to defensive medicine, Blachar noted. Defects and diseases are often detected early, as the doctor is aware of the need to be careful.

The lawsuit-leery physician probably also keeps better records and thinks of additional treatments besides the conventional ones.

A recent poll of US doctors found that 35% of them have refused at least once to treat high-risk patients; and 21% of those charged higher fees to try to cover the possible consequences of a lawsuit. Because of the growing number of malpractice suits against obstetricians, 25% of all deliveries today in the US are by cesarean section; here, the figure is 13% of all deliveries, and rising.

### DIET ADVICE TO TEENAGERS

Weight problems and diet are a major concern of teenagers. Now Kupat Holim Clalit's health education department has opened a free open phone line for teenagers on this subject. Called Kav Kal, the line operates on Thursdays from 3 to 6 p.m. Call (03) 577 3242 or 577 3243. Callers do not need to identify themselves.

During its first few days of operation, hundreds of youngsters called with questions such as "How do I know I'm growing or not?" and "What foods should a vegetarian eat to supplement one's diet?" The department, which is running the line in cooperation with the Givatayim Municipality's youth advice services, will also send informational booklets to callers.

### MUSEUMS ON LINE

Beth Hatefutsot (the Nahum Goldmann Museum of the Jewish Diaspora) in Ramat Aviv has opened its first-ever on-line exhibition over America Online. More than 50 images, some of which have never been exhibited before, are being presented in slide-show format for viewing at home on a personal computer. All share the theme of childbearing legends, practices and values among the Jews.

Users [who can reach the Jewish Community Forum (keyword Jewish) in the arts and culture section], can examine and discuss the relevance of these traditions in on-line chat rooms.

The Israel Museum has, meanwhile, opened a charming World Wide Web site on the Internet showing children's drawings on the Jerusalem 3000 theme currently being exhibited. Located at WWW.imj.org.il/3000, it includes drawings currently on show, as well as an interactive trivia game and direct video transmissions from the museum exhibition.

### HUSSEIN TO GET TECHNION AWARD

Jordan's King Hussein will support a joint water research project to be carried out with the Haifa Technion, whose British Friends' Association will present him in May with its prestigious Churchill Prize. Hussein agreed that all proceeds from the charitable event, for which participants will each pay £600, and other donations will go to a joint research project involving Israeli and Jordanian scientists. The project aims at improving sewage treatment and desalination, as well as optimizing agricultural production - despite the use of low-quality water.

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EDITORIAL OFFICES AND ADMINISTRATION The Jerusalem Post, P.O. Box 81, Romema, Jerusalem (91000)  
Telephone 02-315666. Fax 02-389527. CIRCULATION - 02-315610. Fax 02-389017. ADVERTISING - 02-315608, 02-315637-40  
Fax 02-388408. TEL AVIV: 5 Rehov Hamasgar, P.O. Box 28398 (61283) Telephone 03-6390333. Fax 03-6390277. HAIFA: 20 Nordau,  
Hadar Hacarmel, Telephone 04-8623166. Published daily, except Saturdays, in Jerusalem, Israel by The Palestine Post Ltd. Printed by  
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## Union of illusionists

THE European Union summit held in Turin this weekend has been dogged by illusions for months - not the least of them being the fact that the host and current president of the continent's democracies, Italy, can't even manage to govern itself. It seemed appropriate that a brilliant comet - the ancient harbinger of gloom - soared through Europe's northern skies at the same time.

The summit's long-planned main objective was to launch a debate - which is to last for a year - on changing the founding treaty of the EU and lay the groundwork for absorbing up to a dozen new members. Inevitably, this major project was forced to take second place to the British mad cow crisis, which exploded out of all reasonable proportion in the week before the summit - mainly because of the European bureaucrats' own ineptitude. Ironically, the handling of this media-driven temporary crisis raises some long-term questions about the entire direction and purpose of the European Union.

While the European leaders have been calling for measures to restore public confidence in the continent's beef industry - a confidence mainly destroyed by kneec-jerking in Brussels - they would do well to ask what is to be done about evaporating public confidence in the EU itself. It would have been logical to assume that when one member country faces a serious problem, the EU machine would be geared to help that member contain and solve it.

In the case of mad cow disease, the Europeans have managed to take a British crisis and turn it into a pan-European one with their ridiculous worldwide ban on British beef. Not only has the measure struck a severe blow to the English beef industry, but first the blameless Scottish and Irish industries were severely damaged, followed by collapsing consumer faith across the European mainland. With French President Jacques Chirac and other EU summit leaders repeating the correct fact that there is still no firm scientific proof that mad cow disease can transfer to humans, one could only wonder what the two weeks of panic, hysteria, global ban, and calls to slaughter British herds has been all about.

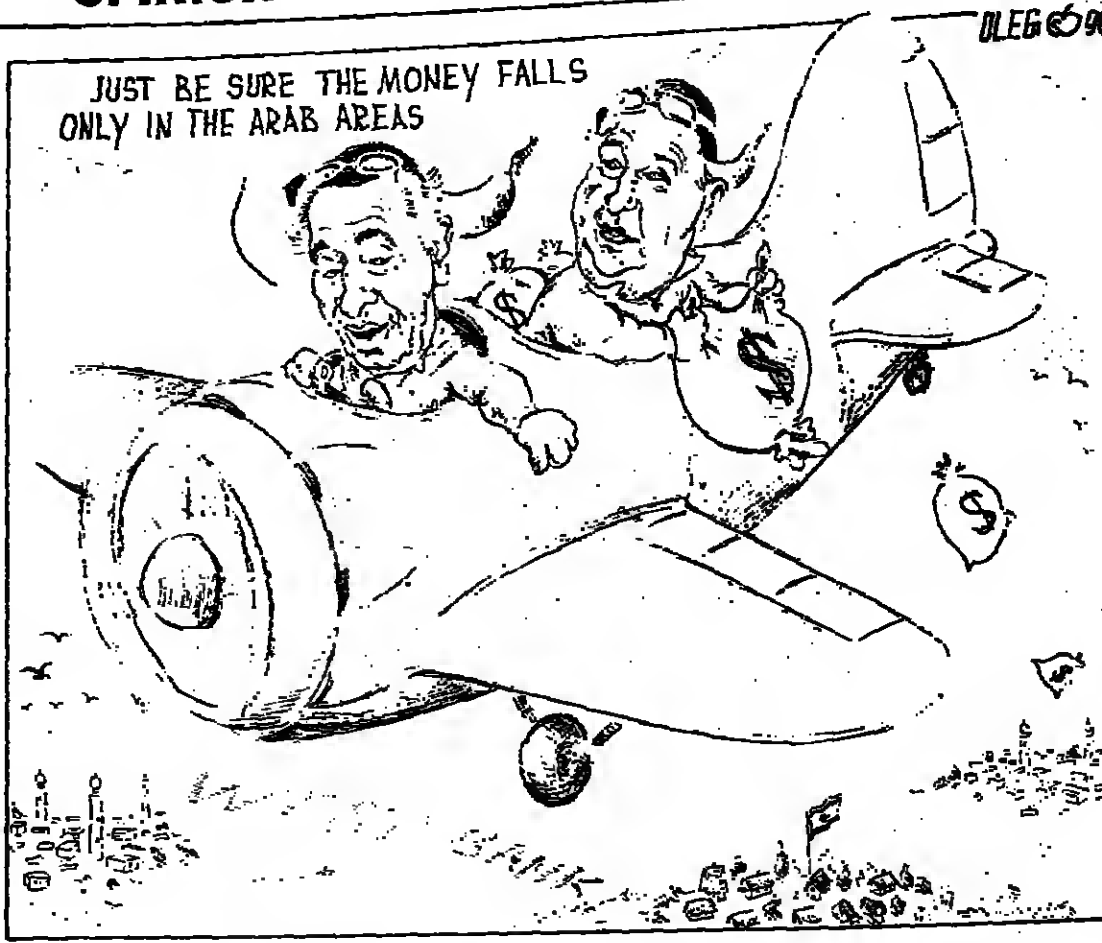
The EU is usually criticized for its cumbersome decision-making procedures and vast webs of red tape. When required to take decisive action, Brussels generally moves like a formation of 15 snails trying to change direction in unison - and, as in the four years' agonizing over Bosnia, failing. Yet this time it swooped on the British with unseemly and hyperactive haste, turning what should have been a mere

national concern into a near international crisis. The EU leaders were quick to blame the media for fanning the flames just to sell more newspapers. The tabloid media may indeed have behaved appallingly, but since when are European leaders required to act on media hype, as they have done in this case?

The EU summit to launch the year-long ways-and-means conferences was planned long before the cow crisis. Those foreign ministers' conferences now have plenty of political beef to chew on. The most basic question the EU must consider is where it lost its way on the journey from the brilliant post-war idea of the Coal and Steel Community, which joined these basic French and German industries together to make another European war economically impossible. This simple practical concept was the first step in the idealist vision of the community's founders to develop a patriotic pan-European confederation to destroy the antagonisms that brought two world wars.

The EU as a body has probably failed to consider sufficiently how much it had depended on the Cold War for its unity of purpose. What was assumed to be growing European patriotism may have been no more than a desire to huddle together for comfort as the superpowers stared one another down over European heads. Furthermore, the procedures for running the EU were also laid down in the bleak 1950s, when it was merely the European Economic Community (EEC) and had six members. Now the 15-member monster is trying to bring another 12 into the club in the next 10 years.

The gap between reality and illusion gets wider by the day in Europe. The people of the union see it and mock it, while their highly educated and highly paid leaders in the European Commission and parliament seem to think that hoisting the attractive union flag and playing the stirring national anthem does a unified Europe make. The very name has run ahead of reality. The EEC was exactly what it said - an evolving economic community. It was said of the 'Holy Roman Empire' that it was neither holy, nor Roman, nor was it an empire. The EU is in danger of earning history's ridicule for living the illusion that it is a union, or that its members even desire it. The whole European venture has had its great successes and truly outstanding achievements in the past 50 years. That original vision and those achievements deserve a better future in the next 50 years than the limited gray men, gathered in a country that can't form a government, would seem to portend.



## Vote for rickshaws

YOSEF GOELL

To judge from the election campaign, one would think that Israel's only problem was choosing between opposing scenarios for the future of the territories, and the nature of our relations with the surrounding Arab world.

But we have other problems, many of which are very important. Regrettably, all of them have been swept under the carpet just as we prepare to choose who is to govern us for the next four years.

One of the problems that Labor, the Likud and the other parties are ignoring is how we 5.6 million Israelis - a figure slated to grow to almost seven million by the year 2000 - are going to move about in a country that is getting more and more overcrowded.

One of the hallmarks of the Labor government of the past four years has been the spending of billions of shekels on constructing a network of new roads. We are just now beginning to suspect that all this outlay may have been terribly misguided, because the main effect of more and better roads seems to be the advent of more cars and trucks.

The unthinking road-building frenzy has now reached its apex with the government's determination to push through the multi-billion shekel Trans-Israel Highway.

Not to be outdone, Tel Aviv's Likud mayor, Ronni Milo, is just as determined to secure his place in history by building a multi-billion shekel subway.

The innate inflexibility of a subway, compared with surface transportation, will not do much to alleviate the real transportation problems of Tel Avivians or of the hundreds of thousands who swarm into the city every day.

A bit of rethinking seems to be in order before we pour out billions upon billions of shekels on "solutions."

One of the reasons for Milo's obsession with the idea of a subway is that Tel Aviv's streets are so hopelessly clogged. Buses are too big and cumbersome; taxis contribute even more to clogging the streets.

Horrendous as it might be for politicians standing for reelection to contemplate, as the population continues to grow there will be no alternative but to close large parts of metropolitan streets to private cars.

I believe that a mix of buses, taxis and thousands upon thousands of small auto-rickshaws would be of great benefit to urban life here.

I RECENTLY returned from a six-week trip to India, during which I visited many of its overcrowded cities. There is little we can learn from India, except to

## More than a footnote

FOUR years ago this month, the Knesset enacted the Basic Law: Human Dignity and Freedom, and the Basic Law: Freedom of Occupation.

According to Justice Barak, these laws are nothing less than a "constitutional revolution."

But as revolutions go, it was quiet indeed. And the laws passed by votes of 52-21 and 23-11.

During the votes, MKs were everywhere but on the Knesset floor. They were out campaigning and worrying about the approaching elections.

The performance of 1992 was hardly conducive to the creation of a sound, well-grounded constitution. Later, some MKs came to regret the hasty passage of these Basic Laws.

Contrary to the promises of the laws' sponsors, the Basic Laws had little impact on the consequences, rather than being mere democratic window dressing designed to impress the outside world.

The religious parties discovered this in the following year, when the Supreme Court stated that forbidding the import of non-kosher meat infringed the Freedom of Occupation protected by the new Basic Law of the same name. Legislators scrambled to amend the Basic Law: Freedom of Occupation, inserting a provision that permitted the Knesset to override a protected right.

Now, as another election approaches, is history about to repeat itself?

Once again Israel is in the midst of an election campaign. Once again, there is a movement afoot to push through new Basic Laws on various rights.

There are reports of the completion of the Israeli constitution with a Basic Law: Human Rights, and a Basic Law: Legislation.

It seems the sponsors of these Basic Laws - chief among them the chairman of the Knesset Law, Constitution and Legislation Committee, Meretz MK Dedi Zucker - are again hoping to catch MKs and the public with their minds on other matters.

If Knesset attendance in the past few weeks is any indicator, Zucker is likely to succeed.

several years to draft the country's new constitution.

Countries often have constitutional conventions where delegates representing different sectors of society come together for several months to deliberate on a constitutional package. National referendums are also used to secure popular support for constitutional change.

Constitution-making is one of the most momentous tasks in a democracy. It demands public awareness of the enterprise and, at the very least, legislative attentiveness.

Justice Barak has suggested that a national referendum be held to lend democratic support to the consolidation of the Basic Laws into Israel's formal constitution.

However, this suggestion only gives the nation veto power over the final product, rather than what is necessary: a say in the process and the contents of the constitution.

There was a time, a few years back, when lobbying for a constitution was a massive public enterprise. Copies of a proposed constitution were included in weekend newspapers, large public rallies were held, and information forums were organized. Now, all is quiet on that front.

This silence reflects complete public ignorance of the current constitutional endeavors. Israel is poised to enter the constitutional world with a whimper, not a bang.

Four years ago, the Knesset passed the Basic Law: Human Dignity and Freedom, and the Basic Law: Freedom of Occupation.

Yet MKs were surprised by Supreme Court judgments culminating in the Gal Law decision of November 1995 which stated that Basic Laws have constitutional status. The completion of the Israeli constitution should not take a back seat to the election campaign.

Is it too much to ask that MKs legislate with half as much passion as they campaign? There is still time for them to learn from the experience of 1992.

The writer is a Fulbright Scholar researching Israeli constitutional law.

**Basic Laws are the warp and woof of Israeli life. Their enactment away from the public view bodes ill for democracy**

ADAM DODEK

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**CLEAN UP!**  
Sir, - We tend to identify with the pro-Israeli (right-wing) views expressed by *The Jerusalem Post*, and are glad you are there to say it. However the anti-religious remarks are entirely out of place.

Your editorial of March 14 begins with a "Jewish joke" ridiculing the Jewish age-old customs of praying to God to help in times of trouble, and re-examining our deeds to see if we are indeed worthy of redemption.

In these difficult times, yes, military and political action are necessary to fight terrorism, but in the final analysis, it is not we who will determine the outcome - only with our prayers and our deeds can we hope that "He who makes peace above" will grant us true peace.

Since a large portion of the right-wing, English-speaking public (your readership) are religious Jews, *The Jerusalem Post* should reevaluate its anti-religious slant, and clean up.

ALAN S. BIRENBAUM  
NOMI GUTENMACHER  
RABBI RICHARD M. LEVINE  
RABBI ASHER METH  
RABBI ELI RABINOWITZ  
Jerusalem.

**PROVINCIAL PETTINESS**  
Sir, - The President of the United States, the leader of the free world, makes a solidarity visit to Jerusalem. Whatever the ulterior motives, there is no doubt about President Clinton's real commitment to Israel - and what is more, he is an executive president, not one who can simply enjoy the luxury of speaking his mind at will. Clinton has to a large extent put his money where his mouth is.

And do we appreciate this fine gesture? Absolutely not. Our president sees fit to boycott the ceremonial welcome on grounds that it did not take place in Jerusalem, our undivided capital. (Does he not recall Sadat's welcome at the airport under Begin?) Our mayor, Mr. Olmert, boycotts the ceremony, bans Jerusalem schoolchildren from attending Clinton's visit in Tel Aviv and gumbles about the positive light in which the visit, and the Sharm e-Sheikh conference place Mr. Peres. It really is too bad that our prime minister knows how to act the statesman, and get credit for it. Shame on him!

In this age of the global village, Israel may want to give expression to its sovereignty by at least pretending to be a civilized country with enlightened political norms and to evince a little old-fashioned *derech eretz* to dignitaries who come to us in friendship. Allow them sometimes to disagree with us and not commemorate all the tragedies we want them to remember. The mere presence of Clinton as such a time is real commemoration enough. Both Weizman and Olmert have behaved outrageously to President Clinton, and I, for one, blush for their provincial pettiness.

Incidentally, Mr. Olmert may want to take time off from blustering about offenses, real or imagined, and from the troubles of nursing councilwomen, to ask himself why "united" Jerusalem, once our crowning glory, is looking dirtier, shabbier and more miserable every day. Oh for the good old days of Teddy...

YEHUDIT KESHET  
Jerusalem.

**YOU WILL SURVIVE**  
Sir, - How can Michel Sabbah ("Violence does not beget peace," Letters, March 6) complain about various procedures and security restraints imposed at roadblocks and not acknowledge the cause for these measures, plus the protection that they offer innocent people from terror attacks?

I am a Christian who has lived and worked for a number of years in Israel and have of course been subjected many times to security checks. Never once did I feel that my dignity was impaired. Indeed I have seen them as a necessity and have been grateful. Perhaps Mr. Sabbah should realize that these checkpoints and closures may well have saved his own life, because when a bomb strikes, it doesn't differentiate between peoples. Yes, as Mr. Sabbah says, violence does not beget peace. Perhaps that message should be addressed to the men and women of Hamas who are deluded into believing that, if they die in a jihad they are assured of a place in paradise. It seems to me that Israel is bending over backwards to achieve peace through Oslo, and as usual, all it is receiving in return is useless pieces of paper, meaningless promises and appalling acts of terror.

I love Israel, and I do pray for the peace of Jerusalem. You will survive, as you have survived all the previous attempts to annihilate you as a people, because your God is returning you to His Land, as He foretold in His Word, the Bible. You will have peace, but it will come through Him and not through Oslo or any other world power.

HANNAH SEALAY  
Barnet, England.

**ATLANTA'S JEWS**  
Sir, - The article of March 15 on Atlanta, Georgia, was a major disappointment to anyone who knows that special Jewish community. Your writer is so concerned with restaurants (all non-kosher) and shopping that, save for a fleeting reference to a small new museum of Jewish history, there is a nothing about the vibrant Jewish life in this city of almost 100,000 Jews.

Had your writer bothered, here are some things which he might have noticed: Atlanta has over 15 synagogues of various types; it boasts of four Jewish day schools plus a yeshiva high school and a kollel doing fine outreach work. The beautiful Orthodox synagogue, Beth Jacob, of which I was privileged to be the rabbanit for 40 years, has an attendance of over 400 every Shabbat morning; hospitality and graciousness are hallmarks of the total Jewish community.

ESTELLE FELDMAN  
Jerusalem.

**THANK YOU**  
Sir, - Thank you, Thomas O'Dwyer, for your comment of March 5. Mostly, thank you for the phrase, "As long as there is one group out there that thinks Israel has no right to exist..." Because that it what this is all about, and it must be said over and over again, until the world hears, and finally, understands.

SUSAN CHASIN  
Gan Yavne.

## POSTSCRIPTS

**AN AIRLINE** crew was suspended after they landed at the wrong airport, a mistake they weren't aware of, but their passengers were.

The crew realized they weren't about to land in Germany as they approached the runway in Belgium, but by then it was too late.

All 241 passengers on the flight, which originated in Detroit, realized something was amiss because they were following the progress of the flight on an electronic display.

The stewards said later that they didn't correct the crew because they assumed the plane was being hijacked.

IT WAS one of those mistakes newspapers dread: a misplaced photo. *The South China Morning Post* ran a picture of Quebec Premier Lucien Bouchard and his wife - but it was placed in a story about serial killers Fred and Rosemary West. The headline read: "Cheerful, charming odd-jobman West driven by sex and sadism."

IF YOU ASK Natron Fuhhle, crime definitely, absolutely does not pay.

Poor ol' Natron thought he'd remove all the money from a Miami delicatessen, but the store owner clouted him a tremendous shot across his face with a giant salami, breaking the thief's nose.

Clutching his busted beaker, Fuhhle fled and hid in the trunk of a car, which happened to belong to a police undercover surveillance team.

Only five days later, while the cops were chasing another thief, did they hear troubled Fuhhle's pathetic cries.

AN AUSTRALIAN journeyed back to his ancestral home of Barrow, in the north of England, to track down his long-lost brother, only to be told that his brother had moved away - to Australia.

IT WAS originally going to be the world's largest snowball fight, but when the weather didn't cooperate, marshmallows were quickly substituted.

Thousands of children tossed 130,000 marshmallows in Skokie, Illinois, in what was billed as the world's largest marshmallow fight.

Why they did it, no one knows.

**PICTURE POSTSCRIPT**

We imagine this Oslo shop-name means something considerably different in Norwegian - unless, of course, this place really does specialize in rade photos.

(David Naveh, Kfar Blum)

## Mayor Milo's subway scheme is as expensive as it is unnecessary

heed the nightmare resulting from an unchecked population explosion.

But one thing that does seem to work there are the auto-rickshaws.

Anyone who has been to India or Southeast Asia will be familiar with these three-wheel motorcycles that can carry two or three passengers and zip around town into the tightest of alleyways.

What should recommend them to us is their extreme versatility and cheapness. Several thousand auto-rickshaws could solve the problem of commuters leaving the new commuter railway and bus stations in Tel Aviv and hastening to their destinations.

Auto-rickshaws would have the additional advantage of being much cheaper than buses or taxis, and this would be reflected in fantastically cheaper fares.

Their main drawback, as I saw in India, is that they are very noisy and smelly, and are major pollutants. But this could easily be remedied by the introduction of electric models.

The technology for such vehicles already exists - some of the most revolutionary developments are taking place here in Israel - and I understand that they can now travel up to 300 km. between battery recharges.

I would suggest that before Mayor Milo gets too carried away with spending billions on an unnecessary subway he set up an experiment employing 100 or so electric auto-rickshaws in Tel Aviv to see how much of a real solution they provide.

A truly progressive political leader will always consider thinking small and efficient preferable to thinking big and expensive.

The writer comments on public affairs.

President Clinton at the Egyptian summit...  
...said to re...  
...will not succ...  
...passed...  
PEACE



# AMERICAN OUTLOOK

Sunday, March 31, 1996



## Is an election-year budget deal in works?

BY ROBERT NOVAK

Senate Republican Whip Trent Lott has received a call from Dick Morris, his former campaign consultant and President Clinton's current chief strategist, with this message: Let's make a budget deal.

Morris is not a detail man, and he did not specify how the deal could be forged. But his call to Lott set off speculation all over Capitol Hill that the White House might be willing to make sufficient compromises for an election-year agreement.

That fits the Clinton-Morris strategy of pre-empting the balanced budget issue from the Republicans. The president is now talking about deficit-reduction as much or more than GOP lawmakers.

### DON'T BASH PAT!

Sen. John McCain of Arizona, an influential member of Sen. Bob Dole's presidential campaign high command, strongly recommended that the bashing of Pat Buchanan come to an end.

On the morning of the Midwestern primaries, McCain attended the Dole campaign steering committee meeting and urged that the time had come to make peace and not war with Buchanan and his followers. Later that day, Buchanan showed his strength by attracting independent and Democratic voters in the Michigan and Wisconsin primaries.

Dole's disinclination to go to Buchanan for support, har in hand, was reflected that night on ABC's "Nightline." Noting that he had won 25 straight primaries against Buchanan, Dole said: "It would seem to me that I'm the fairly clear winner in this contest, and it would seem to me that he'd be saying, 'What can I do to help, Bob?'"

### CONSERVATIVE CIVIL WAR

Much of the conservative movement has turned against freshman Rep. Linda Smith of Washington state, who won the 1994 Republican nomination with a write-in vote supported by the Christian right. The reason: her campaign finance reform bill.

Conservative activist Paul Weyrich, who first urged Smith to run for the state legislature in 1982, in his commentary over National Empowerment Television, accused her of breaking her word. He said she has reneged on her promise to "be as tough on the unions" as on other political action committees. Smith told this columnist that she was seeking a bill that "everyone is comfortable with" and indicated that House members would get a chance to include unions.

"She has been co-opted by the unions and Common Cause," said Weyrich. National Right-to-Life and other conservative organizations also are opposing Smith, as is the House Republican leadership.

### GOP-STYLE DEMOCRATS

The probability that a Republican-backed Democrat will represent the traditional Democratic stronghold of El Paso, Texas, in Congress has deepened Democrats' concerns about a new GOP strategy.

Rep. Martin Frost, chairman of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, fears that Republicans are intervening to nominate conservative Democrats in districts where their own party has no chance to win. Two examples: in El Paso, former Border Patrol chief Silvestre Reyes to replace retiring liberal Rep. Ron Coleman; in San Diego, Calif., city councilman Jose Vargas challenging liberal Rep. Bob Filner.

In the Texas primary March 12, Reyes ran 14 percentage points ahead of ex-Coleman aide Jose Luis Sanchez, whom he faces in the April 9 runoff primary. Reyes has courted Republicans to cross over into the Democratic primary and is supported by prominent El Paso Republicans. Ron Pate, his campaign treasurer, played that role in 1994 for the GOP congressional nominee against Coleman.

### TERM-LIMIT POLITICS

The national term-limit movement, quietly operating underneath the political radar, sent out 400,000 pieces of mail in Illinois to contribute to the stunning upset of Lt. Gov. Bob Kustra for the Republican senatorial nomination.

Kustra, backed by Gov. Edgar and the state Republican establishment, was defeated by state Rep. Al Salvi in one of the great political surprises in Illinois political history. Besides support from anti-abortion, anti-gun control and anti-tax forces, Salvi won backing from the preponderance of Republican voters who support term limits.

Salvi signed the U.S. term limits pledge to support a restriction of three House terms and two Senate terms and pledged personally to serve no more than two terms in the Senate, even if no limits are adopted. When Kustra declined to make such pledges, Americans for Limited Terms launched its mail campaign. That warns Republican candidates who try to fudge on this issue.

Robert Novak is a nationally syndicated columnist of the Chicago Sun-Times.

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# The message Negotiating an end to terrorism

BY ALAN DERSHOWITZ

As the civilized world focuses its attention on the horrors of terrorism and tries to pinpoint blame, it forgets to look in the mirror. The primary culprits are the United Nations, numerous respected church groups, including the Vatican, and most Western governments. It was they who welcomed and even honored Yassir Arafat while he was still directing terrorist murders against babies, women, old people, diplomats and air travelers. It was they who legitimated terrorism as an acceptable means toward the end of "national liberation." It was they who sent a message to youthful fanatics that their murderous acts, targeting the most vulnerable civilians, could be seen as heroism.

**Even President Clinton, in his speech at the Egyptian anti-terrorism summit, sent an unfortunate mixed message when he said to terrorists "You will not succeed; your day has passed."**

Who can ever forget the welcome Arafat received from the United Nations, shortly after he had ordered the slaughter of Jewish babies at Ma'alot and shortly before he was to order the murder of more innocents around the world? Who can ever forget the praise heaped upon Arafat by numerous Christian church groups and the way he was welcomed at the Vatican? Who can forget the honors bestowed upon this cowardly killer by governments such as Austria, France and Spain?

### PEACE

The young suicide bombers who are now menacing the peace process certainly do not for-

get. They have it hammered into them by radical Islamic fundamentalist leaders who believe that they too will someday be honored as Arafat has been. Perhaps they, too, will someday share the Nobel Peace Prize, as Arafat did, when he decided that terrorism was no longer a useful tactic for achieving a Palestinian state. Bestowing a peace prize on a terrorist for halting his terrorism after slaughtering thousands, would be like giving a law-and-order award to Charles Manson if he announced that he no longer believed in Helter Skelter murder.

Even President Clinton, in his speech at the Egyptian anti-terrorism summit, sent an unfortunate mixed message when he said to terrorists "You will not succeed; your day has passed." This formulation suggests that perhaps there was an appropriate day for terrorism in the past and that perhaps there will be another appropriate day in the future. Moreover, according to an article in the *Wall Street Journal*, the president has invited to the White House the executive director of the American Muslim Council, who - according to terrorism expert Steven Emerson - "champions and represents Hamas," the very group who claims credit for the massacres in Israel. As Seif Ashmawy, the Muslim publisher of *The Voice of Peace*, put it: "The American Muslim Council is a radical group that supports radical Islamic terrorist movements. I am shocked and outraged that the White House would embrace them."

Terrorism will not end so long as the civilized world continues to speak out of both sides of its mouth about it. Until the civilized world - governments, churches, the Nobel Prize Committee, universities and the media - unconditionally condemn terrorism against innocent civilians, it will continue. No person who has ever partaken in terrorism should ever be honored by decent people, no matter what they have done since. The message must be clear and unambiguous: Terrorists and terrorism are forever beyond the pale of civilization.

This does not mean that terrorists - past or even present - should not be negotiated with. We negotiate with hostage takers, murderers and all other manner of evil. But there is a difference between negotiating with a terrorist and honoring one. As a society, we have failed to understand, and act on, that important distinction. The honors we bestow on "reformed" terrorists

like Arafat send a dangerous message to current and potential terrorists: namely, that there is a time for terrorism and a time to stop it. This message, however, treats terrorism as a tactical, rather than as a moral concern. This is precisely the wrong message to be sending if we really want to rid our world forever of the relatively recent scourge of terrorism.

**The honors we bestow on "reformed" terrorists like Arafat send a dangerous message to current and potential terrorists: namely, that there is a time for terrorism and a time to stop it.**

President Clinton should be applauded for convening the Egyptian anti-terrorism summit and for his strong support of Israel's efforts to counter terrorism while persisting in the search for peace. But so long as Islamic fundamentalist preachers continue to instill in young zealots a desire to die for the honor of murdering Jews, suicide bombers will continue on their false road to heaven with dynamite strapped to their bodies. We must come up with a way to dishonor terrorists and their surviving families. Responsible religious leaders of all faiths, but especially of the various Islamic faiths, must tell these young murderers that they and those who support them are destined for the lowest rungs of hell and disgrace. Equally important is never to bestow any secular honors on a terrorist. It may be too late to take back the many honors already bestowed on Yassir Arafat, but if one change comes about as a result of the anti-terrorism summit, it should be a collective resolve on the part of the entire civilized world never again to honor a terrorist.

Alan M. Dershowitz is a professor of law at Harvard University. His newest book is "Reasonable Doubts" (Simon & Schuster).

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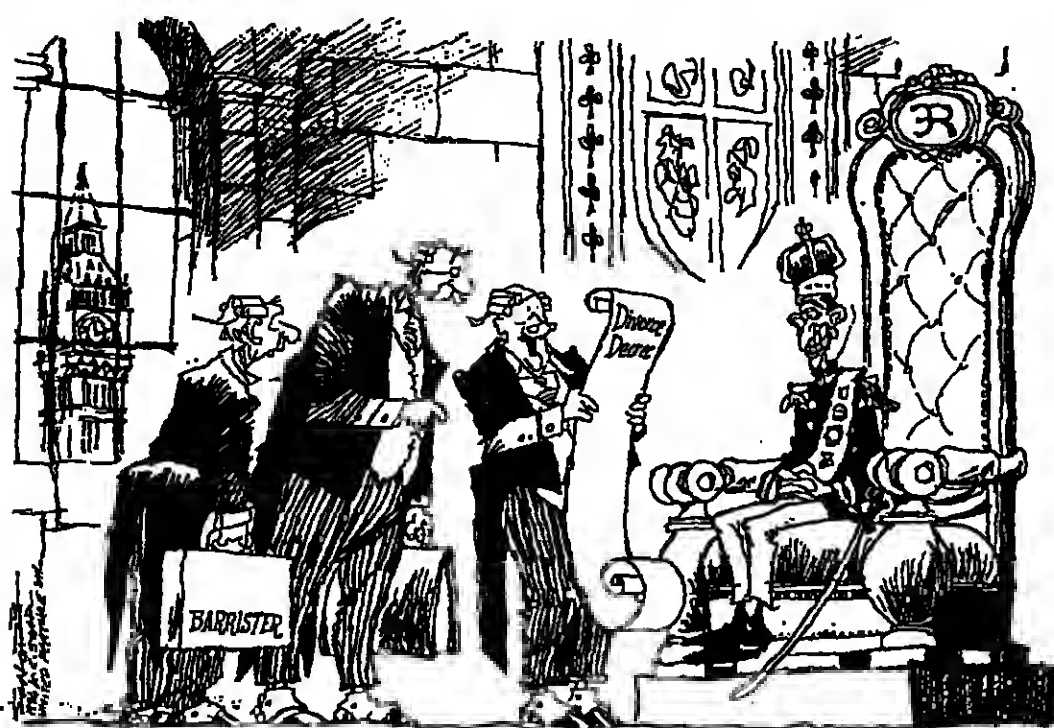


# EDITORIAL CARTOONS

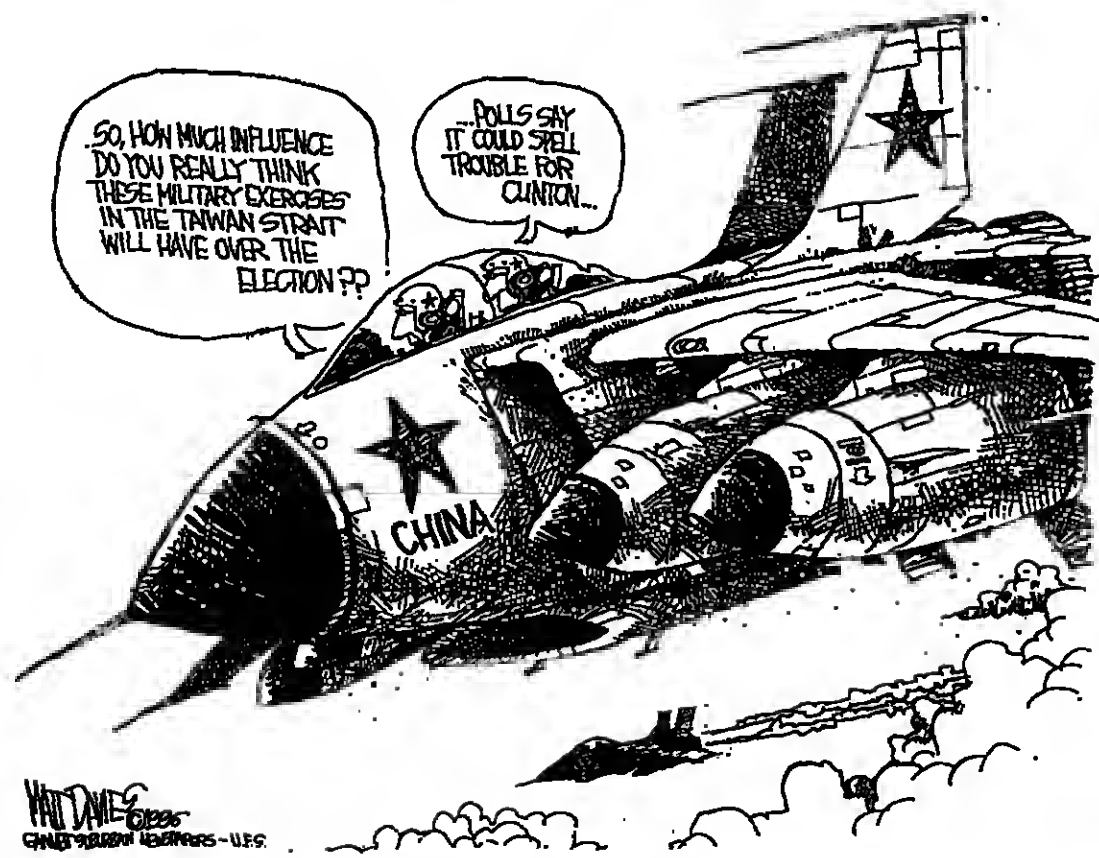
Fast Times



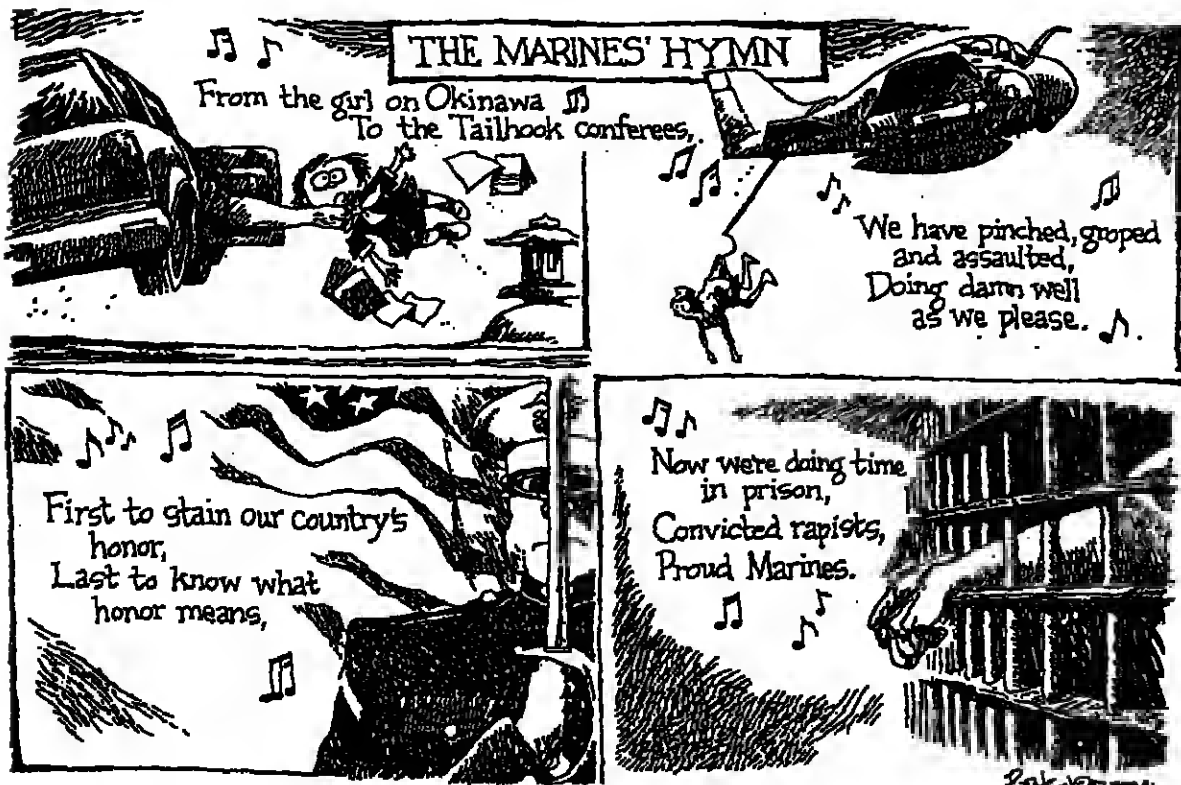
Fast Times



"SHE GETS TO KEEP THE KIDS, THE CASTLE, AND HER TITLE... AND YOU GET NORTHERN IRELAND..."



Walt Dines



# Doling it out

BY PETER BEINART

By the time you read this, Bob Dole may already have broken the law. Candidates who take federal matching funds can only spend \$37 million in this year's primary, and Dole campaign manager Scott Reed has predicted his man will hit the limit by the Rustbelt primaries on March 19. So will Dole go home to the Watergate and forget all that annoying "why I want to be president" stuff until San Diego? Maybe take in a subcommittee meeting or two? Not exactly.

Just as the Dole campaign officially grinds to a halt, various Republican do-gooders will create organizations with names like "Americans for Freedom" or "Citizens for the Future" to spend money on Bob Dole's behalf. Of course, they won't be doing it at the Dole campaign's behest, because that would be illegal. And they won't run ads saying "vote for Bob Dole," because that, too, would be illegal. No, their ads will simply "educate" voters about Bill Clinton, as did the pro-Bush pedagogues who "independently" produced the Willie Horton ad against Michael Dukakis in 1988.

Yet some of these K Street Samaritans will probably employ swap money or do lunch with people who actually work for Bob Dole - in violation of federal election law. And then? Will the machinery of American justice spring into action, exposing Dole's political carcass for opponents and the press to feast on through the rest of the election year? Not exactly, because in cases such as these American justice is represented by the Federal Election Commission.

Faced with the corrupting influence of money in American politics, Perotian populists, high-minded conservatives, anti-system leftists, outraged militia members, renescent Mugwumps and just about everyone else demand new election laws. Bill Bradley is filling the nation's op-ed pages with calls to reverse the 1976 Supreme Court decision Buckley v. Valeo, which makes it unconstitutional to impose mandatory limits on campaign spending. Paul Taylor, a talented former Washington Post reporter, has ditched journalism for a Tolstoyan crusade to get the networks to provide free air time. Congresswoman Linda Smith and her allies on the "black helicopter" right are donning war paint for a frontal assault on political action committees. But the 1974 law reg-

ulating presidential primary campaigns isn't that bad. It provides strong financial incentives for contenders to accept spending limits (all the 1996 candidates worth less than \$400 million did so), and it allows independent groups to spend money that indirectly helps whomever they choose, which would be fine - if they really were independent. The problem isn't the law, but the law enforcer: the FEC.

Consider what the commission did the last time it got word of the Dole Gang's shenanigans. During Dole's 1988 campaign, a PAC called Campaign America, ostensibly unrelated to the Dole for President organization, colluded with it to exceed spending limits in Iowa and New Hampshire. The FEC levied fines. Five years later, and Dole was unlucky: In that same election, backers of George Bush set up the Fund for America's Future (again, note the eerily insipid name), whose spending, since it occurred before Bush had officially decided to run, did not count against election limits. Although a Democrat on the commission said that "only someone just alighting from a UFO" could believe that the fund wasn't promoting Bush's candidacy, the FEC took no action. A 1990 Twentieth Century Fund report declared, "The FEC has failed. It has neither the will nor the means to deter warren violators, who sometimes ridicule openly the commission's weakness. It has interpreted the law so permissively that special interest groups may funnel money to candidates practically without limit if they wish."

Why doesn't the FEC do a better job? Because it's beholden to the people it regulates. The Senate confirms the commission's six presidential appointees, but since three must be Democrats and three Republicans, they're essentially chosen by party bosses. In 1993, for instance, Dole wrote to the White House suggesting it renominate GOP commissioner Lee Ann Elliott to a third term. But, as Roll Call and the Center for Responsive Politics noted, only three weeks earlier, while she was lobbying for renomination, Elliott had participated in an FEC "conciliation agreement" with the Dole campaign on its 1988 violations. The implication was clear: commission members are not independent from the congressional leaders who select them. As a result, the FEC often deadlocks along party lines, and candidates from both sides of the aisle get off lightly.

Not only does Congress try to

keep the commissioners pliant, it denies them the means to investigate properly. Over the years, Congress has banned the FEC from acting on anonymous information, outlawed IRS-style random inspections and cut its staff. The result is that FEC investigations take forever. The Christian Science Monitor reported that an inquiry into Mark Weinberg, a California man who donated \$45,000 (\$44,000 more than the legal limit) to Alan Cranston's 1984 presidential campaign took over five years, although Weinberg admitted his guilt from the beginning.

In 1993, President Clinton's campaign finance reform plan included provisions allowing the FEC's general counsel to act independently of its political appointees. The Heritage Foundation predictably denounced the proposal for empowering "a career bureaucrat," but this was the whole point. If the commission is to effectively enforce campaign law, it must be insulated from the people it regulates. An even more important reform, that Clinton didn't introduce, would allow the FEC to issue injunctions against illegal spending during a campaign, while the wrongdoing still matters politically.

The Clinton plan, which also proposed voluntary spending limits and public financing for congressional campaigns, died a quick and painful death. (Ironically, some Republicans argued that since existing campaign regulations weren't well-enforced, it was foolhardy to propose new ones.) But with populist winds sweeping through Washington once again, a renewed campaign reform effort is underway, led by Linda Smith, Christopher Shays and Martin Meehan in the House and Russell Feingold, John McCain and Fred Thompson in the Senate. Most commentators have focused on the legislation's ban on PACs, its cap on out-of-state donations and its voluntary spending limits for congressional campaigns. But buried in the bill are "miscellaneous provisions" - for surprise FEC audits and on-the-spot injunctions - which may have more impact than the high-profile clauses that overshadow them. The bill's sponsors should make these FEC reforms an integral part of their crusade. Perhaps they can push them through while Bob Dole is still out campaigning.

Peter Beinart is managing editor of The New Republic.

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## Bob Dole on Compassion.

**Calvin Coolidge. Herbert Hoover. Franklin Roosevelt. Harry Truman. Dwight Eisenhower. John Kennedy. Lyndon Johnson. Richard Nixon. Gerry Ford. Jimmy Carter. Ronald Reagan. George Bush. Bill Clinton.**

**Since I was born, 13 other guys got to be president. Why not me?**

MY SOLEMN PROMISE: I WON'T RUN AGAIN.



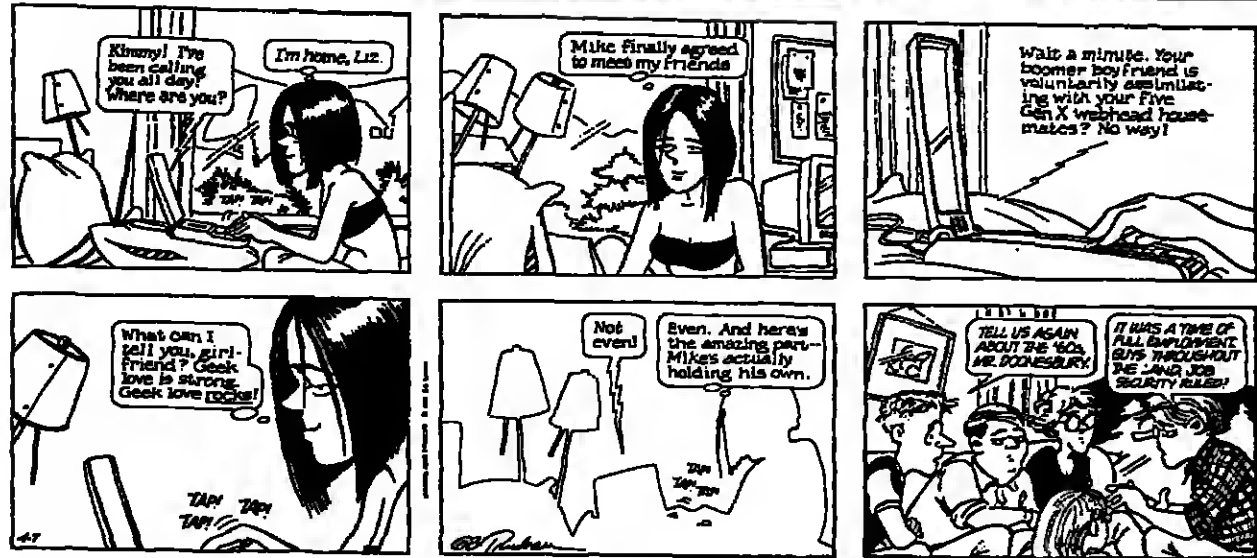
**BOB DOLE: IT'S HIS TURN. IT'S HIS LAST CHANCE.**



# SUNDAY COMICS

## Doonesbury

G. B. TRUDEAU



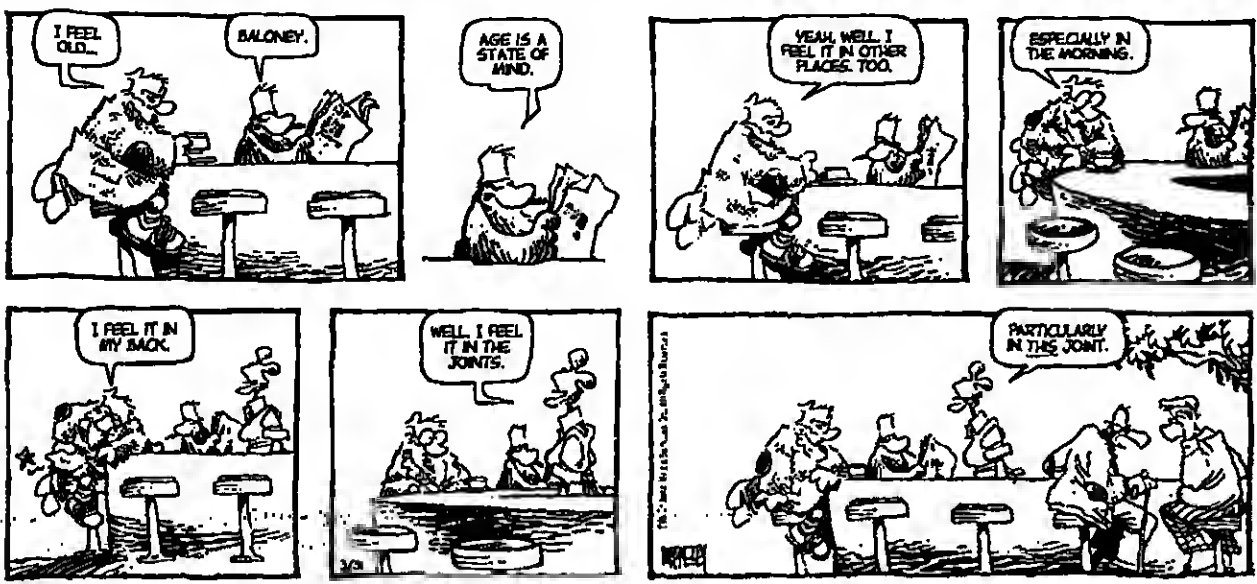
## PEANUTS

by SCHULZ



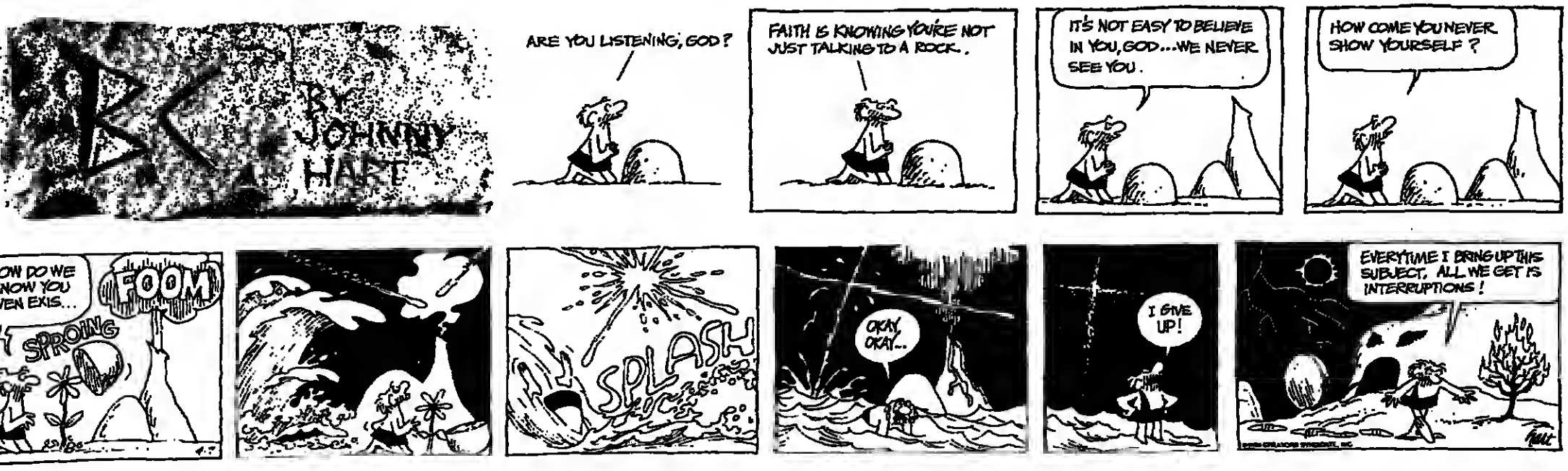
## STUPID

By JEFF MEHELY



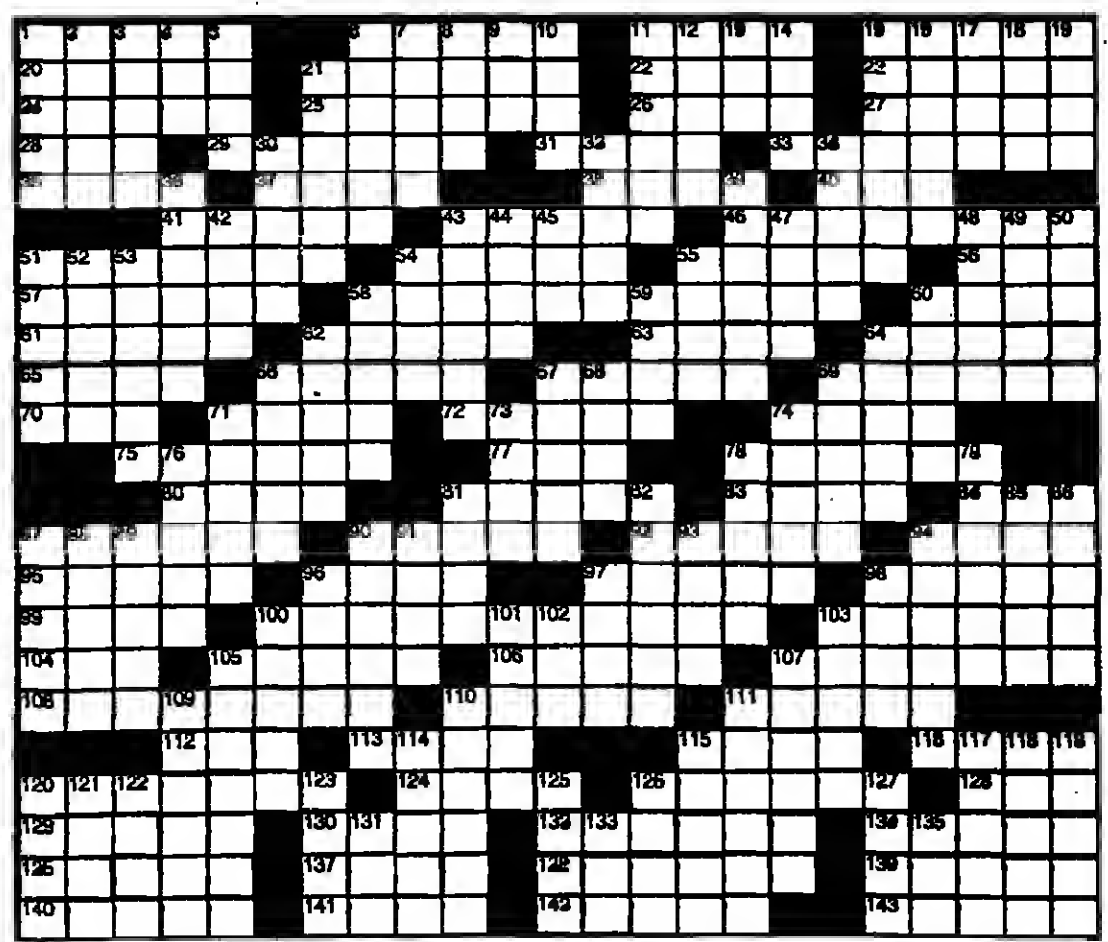
## Calvin and Hobbes

by NEWMAN

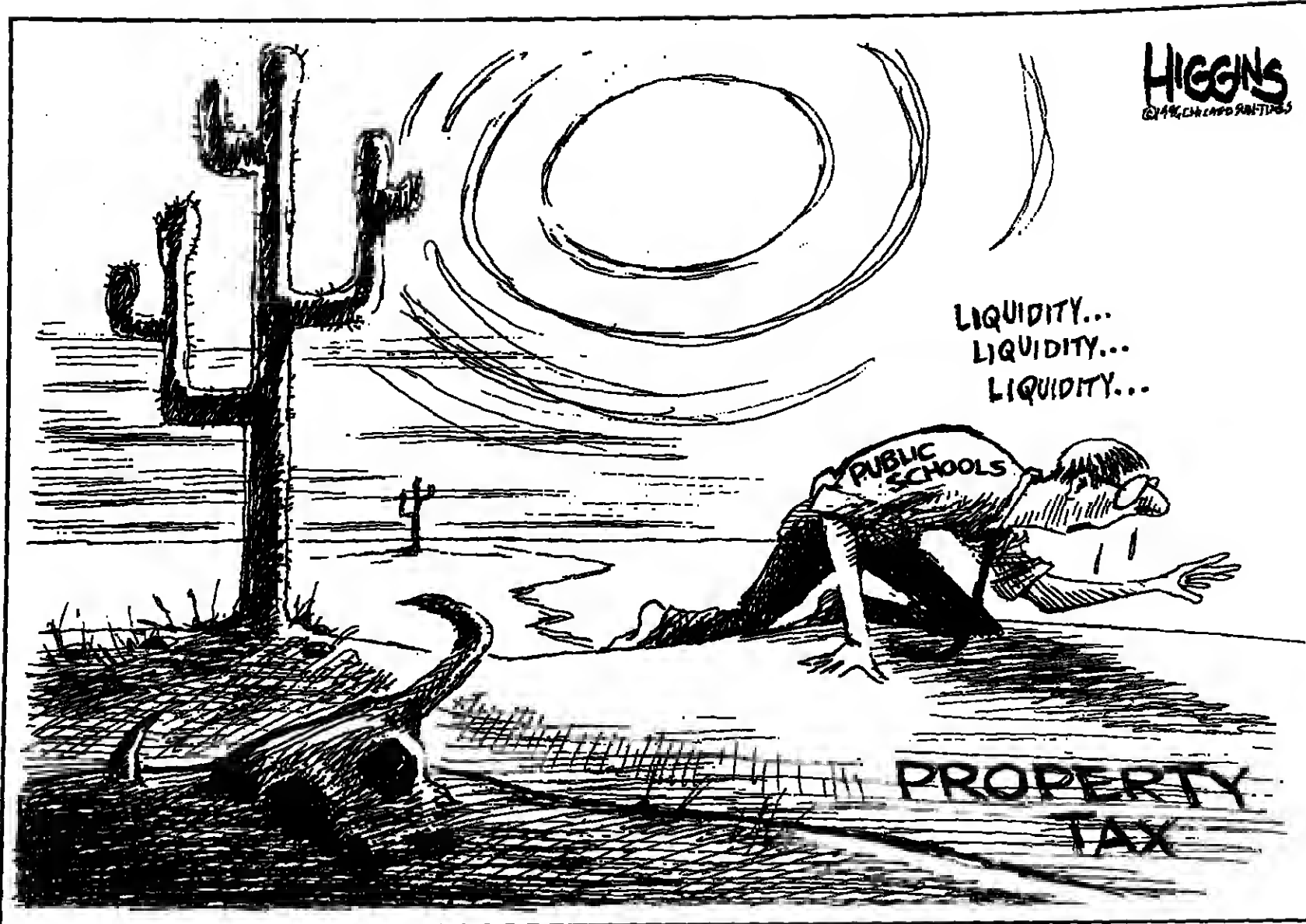


### TODAY'S SUNDAY PUZZLE

- ACROSS**
- 1 Fred's wife
  - 11 Type of scotch
  - 11 -Also, California
  - 15 - out behave irrationally
  - 20 Careless
  - 21 Telephoned
  - 22 Length times width
  - 23 Actor Peter -
  - 24 Warning sound
  - 25 Deane
  - 26 Portnoy's creator
  - 27 Kate's roommate
  - 28 Paris season
  - 29 Thoroughfare
  - 31 Actor Arlen
  - 33 Dirty
  - 35 Capone's nemesis
  - 37 Road to Rome
  - 38 Dutch cheese
  - 40 Highest card
  - 41 Prank
  - 43 Singer Patsy -
  - 44 Surround
  - 51 "The Blue Danube" composer
  - 54 Dupes
  - 55 Bergson's Mortimer -
  - 56 Part of a journey
  - 57 Pray
  - 58 Type on every other line
  - 60 Bisc or Anjou
  - 61 New York city
  - 62 Wilkes -
  - 63 Choice
  - 64 Sweet
  - 65 Top-notch
  - 66 Popular newspaper name
  - 67 French river
  - 68 Word after tea or snack
  - 70 Thru: Ital.
  - 71 Mexican coin
  - 72 Adhesive ingredient
- DOWN**
- 74 Assistant
  - 75 Actor Timothy -
  - 77 Coward
  - 78 In dreamland
  - 80 Caution
  - 81 Mrs. Mer
  - 83 Gustav Alton
  - 84 - Cruces, New Mexico
  - 87 Beach shelter
  - 90 Stage offering
  - 92 Sey
  - 94 Take a chance
  - 95 Inactive
  - 96 Pack tight
  - 97 Old anesthetic
  - 98 Chopped tool
  - 99 Clamping tool
  - 100 Hid the faults of
  - 103 Having times
  - 104 Judge Lance -
  - 105 Relinquish
  - 106 Actress Susan -
  - 107 Bartender's appliances
  - 108 Attack verbally
  - 110 Sore on
  - 111 "Ethan -"
  - 112 Craft
  - 113 Steak order
  - 115 Listen to
  - 116 Tenant's expense
  - 120 Headed the bill
  - 124 Scarier's home
  - 126 Cheason of Edgar Rice Burroughs
  - 128 Montana or Nevada
  - 129 - firma
  - 130 Metical foot
  - 132 Veer
  - 134 Correct
  - 136 Devoured
  - 137 Identical: Fr.
  - 138 Singer Sheena -
  - 139 Sped
  - 140 English mvt or snack
  - 141 Musical sound
  - 142 Fall cover
  - 143 Catchy song
- ACROSS**
- 67 Cash: slang
  - 68 Did a logging job
  - 69 Mid-distance runner
  - 71 Factory
  - 72 State
  - 73 Impudent dence
  - 74 Jacob's son
  - 78 Cognizant
  - 79 Pretended
  - 79 Calm
  - 81 Chess or checkers
  - 82 Composer
  - 85 Mountain crest
  - 86 Passover feast
  - 87 Poet
  - 88 Elberg or O'Day
  - 89 Broom made of twigs
  - 90 Bus-company employee
  - 91 Appraise
  - 93 At that time
  - 94 Meal
  - 96 IOW, a S.
  - 97 That Sp.
  - 98 Par -
  - 100 Garbage
  - 101 H<sub>2</sub>O
  - 102 Picnic pest
  - 103 Plant life
  - 105 Guarantee
  - 107 Bold
  - 109 Not productive
  - 110 Fleasy for plowing
  - 111 Passion
  - 114 Hero's soul
  - 115 Author Bret -
  - 117 Throw out
  - 118 Group of nine
  - 119 Stuffed bear
  - 120 Printer's delation
  - 121 Eye droo
  - 122 Comedian -
  - 123 Johnson
  - 123 Food plant
  - 125 On the Casplan
  - 126 Exam
  - 127 Oriment
  - 131 In the past
  - 132 Used to be
  - 142
  - 143
  - 143 - bat: cocktail







# Red alert during the aftermath

BY TERENCE WRONG

With the conclusion of the international conference on terrorism last week, the American media turned their attention back to stories on Dole and downsizing, deciding that this round of suicide bombings in Israel had run its course. But for Israelis, frightened into staying at home, and Palestinians, under a curfew so tight that at times it resembled house arrest, life was anything but back to normal.

A "Condition Red" security warning remains in effect throughout Israel. Despite the tightest closure order ever imposed on the West Bank and Gaza Strip, Israel's internal security service, the Shin Bet, believes at least one suicide bomber is still on the loose. Early last week, two Palestinians armed with explosives were arrested near Hebron while awaiting orders to explode themselves.

The Shin Bet was raking heat even before the latest bombings. Critics within Israel's large security establishment attacked the timing and publicity surrounding its assassination of Yahya Ayyash ("the Engineer"), the founder of Hamas's suicide bombers. Ayyash's head was blown apart when he answered a jury-rigged cell phone packed with plastic explosives. The critics say that the Shin Bet's eagerness to take credit for the operation was, at best, clumsy. A former Mossad agent put it this way: "The Shin Bet rushed to the Israeli media to say, 'Yes we did it and here's how' so naturally Hamas said, 'Oh, fine, the Israelis are admitting it, now how many Jews should we kill?'"

The former Mossad agent says the assassination's timing was a calculated career move by Carmi Gilon, the Shin Bet's retiring chief. Gilon bore the brunt of the blame for failing to anticipate or prevent the Rabin assassination. Knocking off Ayyash was a way for him to depart on an upbeat note. It worked. Recently, Gilon was named director of Tel Aviv's new subway project. It would have been more ironic had Gilon followed the path of his predecessor, Yaacov Perry: he moved into the private sector as the head of CELLKOM, a cell phone company.

The Shin Bet's new boss is Ami Ayalon, an ex-Navy commander. After the bombings, the prime minister put him in charge of a special inter-service, anti-terror command. Handing this job to a Shin Bet man has made

Shimon Peres's already cool relations with army intelligence even cooler. The army blames the Shin Bet for failing to provide adequate "real-time" intelligence on Hamas and Islamic Jihad. Shin Bet, say army sources, relied too heavily on Yasir Arafat's security service and not enough on its own informers, whose numbers have fallen since Arafat assumed control of Gaza.

## If Arafat does not crush Hamas and stop the bombings, few doubt that Israeli forces will enter the Gaza Strip.

The bitter truth is that there are no quick fixes. Security officials know that there is no effective way to stop a determined suicide bomber. Ask any of the nine policemen who happened to be within 50 yards of the Dizengoff bomber when he exploded himself. Moreover, the bombers have become more difficult to detect. There is evidence they are donning disguises to look like Israelis. When the Dizengoff bomber's severed head was located, it turned out that he had dyed his hair blond. In the Ashkelon bombing on February 25, the bomber wore an Israeli army uniform and an earring in the fashion of many young Israelis.

If Arafat does not crush Hamas and stop the bombings, few doubt that Israeli forces will enter the Gaza Strip. Three weeks ago, Israeli chief of staff Amnon Shahak gave Arafat a list of the 13 Hamas militants Israel believes are responsible for the bombings. Thus far, the top six on the list have not been detained. The most important of these is the Engineer's successor, Mohammed Dief, the alleged organizer of the latest attacks. Yet reliable Palestinian sources report seeing Dief at prayers in a mosque in the Gazan city of Khan Yunis last week. The Shin Bet knows it is unlikely the Palestinian police will arrest Dief.

But it is more than just personal ties that keep Hamas militants at large. Arafat has always been a master of smoke and mirrors, appearing to be doing something without actually doing much of anything. As for his Hamas problem, a Shin Bet analyst says, Arafat needs to appear to be cracking down without actually wrecking his working relationship with the

group. Last December, in Cairo, Arafat and Hamas reached a formal understanding that neither side would seek to undermine the other. Arafat has even appointed several Hamas figures to high-level positions in the Palestinian authority. Now under pressure to close Hamas down, Arafat pretends there are two parts to Hamas: a "political wing" and a "military wing," the so-called Izzedine al-Qassam Brigades that have claimed credit for the bombings in leaflets. It is a variation of the old good cop-bad cop routine. While the Palestinian police search for the bad bombers of Izzedine al-Qassam, Arafat treats Hamas's public face, leaders like Mahmood al-Zahar, as opposition politicians, detaining them briefly in comfortable barracks. But this strategy is dubious even on its own terms. Arafat claims he has posted orders outlawing the Izzedine al-Qassam Brigades, but no one in the Palestinian Authority could produce such a document when asked.

Palestinian and Israeli sources say there is no split within Hamas. What there is, says Ehud Ya'ari of Israeli Television, is "about 50 guys or so who carry out the violence and are known to everyone in Hamas and are part of the organization." Brigadier General Ya'acov Amidror of army intelligence says Arafat could shut down Hamas in a week if he had a mind to. He may not have much longer than that to do so.

Terence Wrong is a producer at ABC's "Prime Time Live" who has covered the Middle East for many years.

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AMERICAN OUTLOOK  
PRODUCED BY:  
CHICAGO  
SUN-TIMES  
FEATURES  
SYNDICATE

# Spy vs. spy

BY JOSEPH FINDER

Unless you're an intelligence junkie, you probably missed a leak that surfaced in the press last year about a brand-new intelligence agency called the DHS, or Defense Humint Service ("humint," means human intelligence, the information gathered by spies). The new venture, it seemed, was actually a merger of the various human-intelligence operations that for decades had been fragmented among the various armed services, mostly the Army. Nothing new here. DHS sources insist. But that's not quite true.

We are, I think, witnessing the beginnings of a significant shift in the decades-long bureaucratic war between the CIA and the Department of Defense. You no longer hear much about the proposals made by Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan and others, in the months after the Soviet empire crumbled, to disband the CIA. Instead, we're witnessing the slow and steady erosion of the once-powerful agency, to the benefit of the Pentagon. And this may turn out to be even worse than the admittedly unsatisfactory situation we've got now.

Flushed with victory after Desert Storm, its prestige enhanced by the Bosnia operations, the Defense Department has become a ferocious antagonist of the Aldrich Ames-weakened CIA. "The CIA's on its knees," one former director of Central Intelligence told me, "and everyone's piling on." The Pentagon may soon be taking over a massive new intelligence imagery agency, subsuming the CIA's vaunted National Photo Interpretation Center.

To those intelligence apparatchiks who keep score (which means almost all of them), *The Washington Post* got it exactly right when it headlined a recent report on the DOD's new power, "PENTAGON GAINING TURF FROM THE CIA." Yet what kind of turf war can it be if CIA Director John Deutch supports the recent shifts of CIA responsibilities to Defense?

True or not, the Defense Humint Service represents the Pentagon's assault on the CIA's historic monopoly over the clandestine collection of intelligence.

Using case officers with non-official cover (NOCs, they're called) is once again in vogue, particularly in Congress. The trouble is, it's enormously expensive to place NOCs in the field. It's difficult to find people who are experienced in the cover job, it takes a lot of money to set up these dummy companies, and it's tricky to manage them. And it's politically risky these days, particularly as the U.S. increasingly collects information on countries that are, or were, friendly.

The Department of Defense controls at least 80 percent of the \$23 billion intelligence budget. According to recent figures, the Pentagon has some 13,000 intelligence analysts, compared to 1,500 at the CIA.

The CIA has faced ferocious opposition from the military over its presumptive monopoly on the clandestine collection business since its earliest days. But now the Defense Department not only has the resources to do its own snooping, it has a rationale: the CIA is no good at military intelligence.

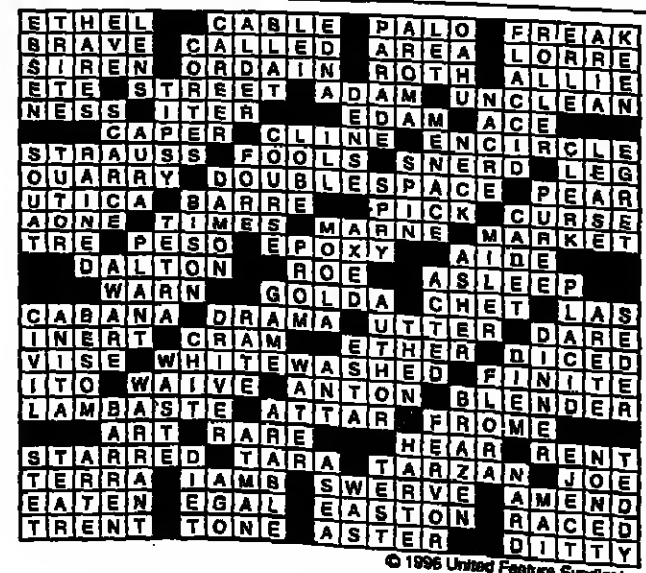
Supporters of the new Defense Humint Service argue that all sorts of controls are in place now, that Yellow Fruit couldn't happen again, and they may be right. Yet it's hard to imagine that any information clandestinely gathered by the military won't be filtered through the military policy apparatus, skewed in favor of whatever spending priority the Secretary of Defense happens to favor. And those who are wary of the CIA's activities around the world should be twice as wary of the much lower-profile, much more secretive — and historically less accountable — Department of Defense.

The DHS's defenders, in Congress and in the Pentagon, argue that only a tiny portion of its roughly 1,000 personnel will be involved in clandestine collection — 20 percent or so, for now. They compare this to the 4,500 in the CIA's Operations Directorate (though fewer than 1,000 of them are covert operatives who recruit and handle secret agents overseas). We're a small operation, the DHS people say. Anyway, it's a new world, the cold war is over, and we've got to restructure the intelligence community. The CIA was created to fight the Soviet Union, and now the evil empire is gone.

No doubt we need to make serious changes in the way America collects intelligence — we've needed to do so for decades already — but it's a grave error to base those changes on a myth, even a convenient one. The CIA after all, was not founded to combat the Soviet Union. It was created by the National Security Act of 1947, in a bold attempt to respond to, and remedy, the chaos in which American intelligence found itself during World War II — the endless turf battles between the Army and the Navy, the fractured intelligence system. And now, fifty years later, we're once again trying to reinvent American intelligence, and it looks like we're also about to reinvent the same mistakes.

Joseph Finder, who writes frequently about security issues, is the author of the forthcoming novel "The Zero Hour" from William Morrow.

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# 'Black Saturday' in Palestine

THERE AND THEN  
SRAVA SHAPIRO

**I**NFURIATED by the aggressive behavior of the Jews in Palestine, British high commissioner Sir Alan Cunningham ordered a crackdown on the entire substructure of Jewish resistance. At dawn on Saturday June 29, 1946, thousands of British troops and policemen raided kibbutzim and towns, where they searched for arms and suspected members of Jewish underground organizations. Some 2,700 Jews were taken to detention camps in the Rafah area.

The Jewish Agency headquarters in Jerusalem was occupied and its leaders were taken to the Latrun detention camp. These included Moshe Shertok (Sharett), then-head of the Jewish Agency's political department, who was arrested in a Tel Aviv hotel; Bernard (Dov) Joseph, who was resting in Netanya; David Remez, who was visiting Kvatrat Kinneret; and Yitzhak Grynbaum and Rabbi Yehuda Fishman (Maimon), who were at home in Jerusalem. Fishman refused to enter the police van on the Sabbath and was slightly injured when taken forcibly.

David Ben-Gurion, chairman of the Jewish Agency executive, was in Paris and thus escaped arrest.

Dr. Mordechai Naor recalls the events of that "Black Saturday" in *MiHerz ad Ben-Gurion* ("From Herzl to Ben-Gurion") - a series of studies about diverse incidents in Zionist history, published recently by the Ministry of Defense.

The event that triggered "Operation Broadsides" was the blowing up by Palmah units of 10 targets along the Palestine border. "The Night of the Brigades" had a political message: The Jews could seal off the country.

Cunningham assumed there would be no difficulty in finding a "moderate" Jewish leadership to replace that of "activists" such as Ben-Gurion. The obvious candidate seemed to be Dr. Chaim Weizmann, then-president of the Zionist Movement.

Weizmann, who generally resided in England, happened to be at his Rehovot residence recovering from a series of eye operations and the flu. When it was intimated to him that the high commissioner might consider the release of Jewish Agency detainees, he went to Jerusalem to meet Cunningham.

The meeting was full of mutual recriminations, says Naor. Weizmann refused to lead a "moderate" group of leaders, and Cunningham refused to release the Latrun detainees. Weizmann called on Cunningham again after a fortnight, but to no avail.

Ben-Gurion was bolstered by Weizmann's stand. He was also encouraged by press reports that the British administration failed to find alternative leaders among the right-wing opposition to Ben-Gurion's Socialists. Proudly he declared at a press conference in



High commissioner Sir Alan Cunningham with David Ben-Gurion, who was in Paris when Cunningham cracked down on Jewish resistance in 1946 and thereby avoided arrest.

Paris that there could not be a Quisling or a Pétain among the Zionists.

FROM LATRUN, Moshe Sharett maintained contact with the Agency leaders who remained free, including his deputy, Golda Myerson (Meir). He urged them to wait for the return to Jerusalem of Eliezer Kaplan, the Agency treasurer, who was known for his cool-headedness.

Kaplan was also reputed to be a "moderate," which probably explains why he was not arrested. Sharett was also seen as a moderate by the administration, but Cunningham sent him to Latrun in spite of London's advice "not to include him."

London wanted Sharett to take part in a new political initiative: a roundtable conference to discuss the possibility of dividing Palestine into three semi-autonomous sections - Arab, Jewish and British, under overall British jurisdiction. Cunningham

stipulated that if Sharett was allowed to go to London, he would be re-arrested on his return.

The matter was not put to test, however, because the Jewish Agency was firm that it would attend the conference only if it could choose its representatives, and only after the Latrun detainees were freed.

Ben-Gurion declared that he would talk to the British only if they agreed to establish a Jewish state in part of Palestine. But British foreign secretary Ernest Bevin, citing links between the Jewish Agency and the "Haganah and other terrorist organizations," said he would not yield to Ben-Gurion's ultimatum.

The seats reserved for the Jews around the round table remained vacant.

Neither was any progress made with the Arabs who came to London, because the Arab idea of negotiations was not to budge from their initial stand.

Meanwhile, two events changed the course of history. On July 22, 1946, the IZL broke its coordination agreement with the Haganah and blew up a wing of the King David Hotel, which served as the Palestine administration headquarters, killing 91 people - British, Jews and Arabs.

And on October 4, American president Harry Truman made known his support for the establishment of a Jewish state, and advocated that the British allow 100,000 Holocaust survivors to enter Palestine.

Negotiations now centered on London's demand that the Jewish Agency publicly condemn terrorism, which the Agency did on October 29. Though the high commissioner was not satisfied with the terms of the condemnation, he ordered the release of the Latrun detainees on November 5.

Ben-Gurion and the Haganah's Moshe Shertok were allowed to return to Palestine. A number of Arab detainees were also freed.



A bug's eye view of an African violet. Photo inspired by Freeman Patterson. (David Brauner)

## A bouquet of photography observations

**N**OW that spring is nearly upon us, it's time to clear away some of the misinformation and misconceptions that have collected since the winter and replace them with some new observations.

On April 22, Eastman Kodak, in cooperation with four major Japanese companies, is launching its Advanced Photo System in the US, Japan, and selected European countries.

APS might better stand for amateur photo system. The system is intended to be fool-proof.

APS uses digital technology to store information that will compensate for human error and its 24-mm film marks the beginning of the end for the 72-year-old 35-mm standard.

Five years in development at a cost of \$1 billion, APS is projected to reverse flagging worldwide camera sales, which have declined by half since 1981. Manufacturers are bringing out a whole new line of compatible cameras, costing 20-30 percent more on average.

Shulie Shwartz of Jerusalem's Shwartz Photo Shops, who attended the Photo Marketing Association's International Convention and Trade Show in Las Vegas in February, reports that "APS will appear on the Israeli market in a few months."

Closer to home, photographers can now rent a professional studio by the hour. Tel Aviv's Studio Rembrandt, which opened on March 1, is equipped with flash and spot lighting, backdrops and props. Photographers can practice glamour, fashion, and still-life photography under ideal condi-

### ON CAMERA DAVID BRAUNER

tions both indoors and outdoors. Studio Rembrandt can also supply models and a make-up artist. A darkroom with two black-and-white enlargers is also available. For rates and further details call Moshe Tauh at (03) 518-3512.

Battery prices in Israel are high because of the added 125% customs and tax. So assuming one stocks up on batteries when abroad, how are they best stored?

All batteries may be refrigerated, but never freeze them. Freezing can cause leakage and even rupturing. Refrigerated batteries need an hour to come to room temperature.

That extra film is reaching its expiration date. Can film life be extended beyond the expiration date?

Both amateur and professional films may be refrigerated or frozen in food storage bags to cut down on shifts in color balance, but not to extend life beyond the expiration date. Allow frozen film one and a half hours to thaw.

IN A sneak preview of their Dead Sea workshops in February and March, world-renowned nature photographers Freeman Patterson and Colla Swart presented an informal slide show upon their arrival in Israel.

Canadian-born Patterson's photography-as-philosophy approach seeks and finds new ways to photograph the most ordinary things in nature. The author of seven photography books said, "We're so locked into whatever height we've grown to be. That height

becomes the sacred height, and God forbid that the world could be viewed more effectively from either a higher or lower perspective."

He urges photographers "to get to a place and park yourself," letting nature come to you.

"When one gets interested in photography, and begins to appreciate what's around him or her every day, that person will never die bored," he said.

White-haired Swart, speaking English with a thick Afrikaans accent, resides and photographs in the wild semidesert region of Namaqualand in South Africa's northwest corner. Only an estimated 10 percent of the thousands of flower species that grow there have been scientifically catalogued.

This is her second visit to Israel. Her audio-visual photographic essay of the local landscape set to music created a serenely relaxing effect on the mind. Her powerful compositions of rocks and flora, water and sky, archeology, and even stained-glass windows faded on and off the screen in a cyclical pattern reflecting Israel's rises and falls throughout the ages.

Swart related that 16 years ago, before she met Patterson, who became her mentor, she was the kind of photographer who "put in a film on Christmas and didn't take it out until the next Christmas, whereupon I put in a new film." Now she's Patterson's teaching partner and a highly acclaimed nature and art photographer in her own right.

For details about future workshops, call Rachel at (03) 938-4395 or Susan at (03) 752-2165, evenings only.

## The cat is out of the bag

HEADS N TAILS  
D'VORA BEN SHAUL

**A** recent survey in the US showed that, when it comes to pets, there are at least three times as many cats as dogs. Since there has been no comparable survey here, some friends and I tried to find out which is the more popular in Israel.

To find how many dogs are kept one can consult the official records of dogs vaccinated against rabies each year. This is required by law, so it isn't difficult to get this information. Furthermore, all dogs need licenses, registers of which are held by the municipalities, district and local councils.

And there are the veterinarians who treat small animals. Even if you want to know what percentage of dogs are pedigreed you can ask the Israel Kennel Club how

many are registered in their stud book.

But information on cats is more difficult to find. Cats do not get annual rabies vaccinations, nor do they require a license. And thousands of cats never need to see a vet in their lives.

Many people do not even vaccinate them against cat diseases (though they should). And there is no real registry of pedigreed cats either.

The only source we found was the suppliers of cat food, whether domestically produced or imported. Although a lot of cats live on table scraps and milk products, and some eat the same dog kibble as the family dog and many never see cat kibble, we reached an amazing conclusion: There are probably two-and-a-half to three times the number of cats kept as companions as there are registered dogs!

Our guesstimates matched the

US figures and those of most industrialized countries.

Cats require far less attention than dogs. Either they go out alone for their toilet needs or they have a litter box. (The cat-litter market is huge.) You don't have to walk a cat and they aren't too fussy about what they eat. Birth control is easily handled by spaying or hormone injection, and many apartment cats are simply not let out to breed.

More and more people are appreciating the independent but loving relationship that a cat can provide.

## Invasion of the species

**T**HE invaders are coming. Modern transport and the changing face of international trade are speeding up the spread of wildlife species around the world, according to a new report.

World Health Organization scientists warned recently that such diseases as diphtheria, cholera and tuberculosis were increasing in the former Soviet bloc and are now threatening to spread to the West as trade links grow.

For Chris Bright, a research associate at the Washington-based Worldwatch Institute, it is the latest development in a familiar pattern. In the institute's most recent annual report on environmental trends, State of the World 1996, Bright says the rate of "bio-invasions" - species moving around the globe - is increasing.

In some cases, the arrival of a new species can add to the biological diversity of an area's eco-system. But many plants and animals have been threatened by such invasions, as have human societies.

"Historically, one of the biggest bio-invasions was the movement of diseases from Europe into the Americas in the 16th century, which resulted in a huge collapse of the native population in the years that followed," Bright says.

"Rats brought plague to Europe in the Middle Ages - killing millions of people," he added. "For animals, rats are also a threat. Many island species have been decimated across the years when rats have been accidentally introduced."

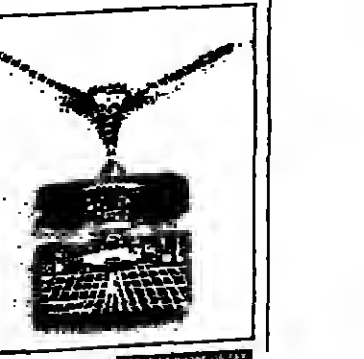
It is believed that US military planes unwittingly may have brought the brown tree snake from Papua New Guinea to Guam, where it has driven nine native bird species, several lizards and possibly three types of bats to extinction.

Some accidental introductions seem less dramatic, but are just as far-reaching. "Since the zebra mussel has been spread from its original home range, the Caspian Sea - probably in ships' ballast - it has become established in Europe and North America," Bright says. "This is an eco-disaster in the making."

"Just as bio-invasions are affecting life at virtually every level on which it can be examined - genetic, ecological or economic - they are also affecting every nation, regardless of its wealth or place in world affairs." (The Sunday Telegraph)

## A Memory and a Dream

This beautifully sculptured charm is a stunning replica of the Second Holy Temple in Jerusalem. Finished in 24k gold electroplated over diamond cut bronze, this unique medallion is an artistic and historically significant tribute to the Jewish People. With an 18" gold-layered chain, this pendant is a perfect gift for any occasion. Actual size: 2.5 x 2.5 cm (1 x 1 in.) JP Price: NIS 99.00



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<b>ACTIVE HOLIDAY IN SINAI</b>	<b>KENYA: 8-DAY SAFARI</b>	<b>MOROCCAN JEWISH HERITAGE</b>
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With the Hilton Hotel in Nueiba as our base, and an English-speaking expert as our guide, we'll explore Sinai's breath-taking highlights, view the Coral Island and the Fjord, and explore the eastern coast. Then a jeep trip takes us to the oasis of Ein Fortaga, the incredible sandstone Colors Canyon, Ein Hudra, and the Ayalot Valley. On day 3, we journey by bus to Santa Caterina Monastery, at the foot of purported Mt. Sinai. We meet the Bedouin of the Jebeliyah tribe, and learn about their lifestyle. The wonderful hotel and beach facilities are yours to enjoy. Return via Taba to Eilat and home.

The dates: Sunday, May 12 - Wednesday, May 15  
The price: US\$295  
Includes: A/C bus from Tel Aviv/Jerusalem and return, desert jeep travel, 3 nights at the Nueiba Hilton (in a double room), 3 hotel breakfasts, 1 hotel dinner, 2 picnic lunches, 1 Bedouin dinner, services of an English speaking guide and Egyptian escort, and all entrance fees.

The world's greatest concentration of wild animals - giant herds numbering hundreds of thousands - can be found in the Savannah of East Africa. We shall tour the foothills of the 5,200 m., snow-covered Mt. Kenya, visit the Samburu game reserve, home to unusual giraffes and zebras, see the millions of flamingoes on Lake Nakuru, and then continue south to the Masai Mara Reserve, with its monkeys, hippopotami and lions. We'll meet members of various local tribes, including nomads and Bantu farmers.

The accommodation is excellent.  
The dates: Departure Monday, July 15; return Monday, July 22  
The price: US\$1930 per person (with double room occupancy)  
Includes: return flight by El Al, use of special safari vehicles with viewing platform, 7 nights in first-class hotels and safari lodges, full board (breakfast only, during two stays in Nairobi), experienced tour guide English-speaking Zoologist, Uzi Meiboom All entrance fees.

Participants in this tour will experience the rich culture and folklore of the Jewish community, in an Islamic country. We travel countrywide, from the sands of the Sahara, with its green oases, to the Berber casbahs, and the villages high in the Atlas Mountains, to the cities of Casablanca, Fes, Meknes, Fez, Marrakesh, and more. We visit Medinah, where the Rambam sought refuge, the Jewish quarter of Fez, the Oukainen-ski site, the Cascas d'Ouzoud waterfalls, the palace of King Hassan II, and many other sites.

The dates: Departure, Wednesday, June 5; return June 17  
The price: US\$2,112 per person (with double room occupancy)  
Includes: international return flights by Air Malta, 12 nights half-board accommodation in 5 star hotels or superior tourist accommodation in the Sahara region, travel in air-conditioned coaches, all entrance fees, services of experienced English-speaking guide, and local guides.

PLEASE NOTE - there is no travel on Shabbat, and fish and vegetarian food is available.  
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SPORTS

Spurs rack up 16th straight



CLOSE QUARTERS - Hawks' Christian Laettner collides with Lakers' Elden Campbell as he drives in for a basket in Friday's action.

DALLAS (AP) - David Robinson scored 31 points and added 15 rebounds as the San Antonio Spurs set a franchise record with their 16th straight win, a 119-104 win over the Mavericks on Friday. Vinny Del Negro added 20 points for the Spurs, who haven't lost since a 95-90 setback to the Los Angeles Clippers on February 27.

George McCloud led the Mavericks with 30 points. Jason Kidd just missed a triple-double with nine points, nine assists and 10 rebounds. Magic 126, Toronto 86. Shaquille O'Neal scored 24 points in 27 minutes as visiting Orlando avenged an embarrassing loss to Toronto earlier in the season by dealing the Raptors their worst loss of the campaign.

O'Neal scored 21 points in the first half for the Magic, who led by 20 points at halftime and played reserves most of the second half. Nick Anderson scored 18 points and Dennis Scott 16 in limited playing time as the Magic moved a step closer to locking up the Atlantic Division title. Orlando, seeking to avenge an embarrassing 110-93 loss to the Raptors in Toronto on December 17, scored in the game's first eight points and were in command throughout.

Lakers 102, Hawks 89. Anthony Peeler scored 11 of his 25 points during a decisive second-half run that erased an 11-point deficit and carried visiting Los Angeles to its third straight win. Magic Johnson got 10 of his 16 during the 3rd-13 run that began with 4:30 left in the third on a 3-point basket by Cedric Ceballos and ended on Elden Campbell's alley-oop dunk.

from Johnson for a 91-79 lead with 0:06 remaining. Johnson also had 10 rebounds and nine assists. Christian Laettner led the Hawks with 22 points.

Knicks 94, Nets 78. JR Reid made his first five shots of the fourth quarter and heard the Madison Square Garden fans chant his name for the first time as a Knicker. Reid finished with 15 points, 13 in the fourth quarter, in one of his best performances since being acquired from San Antonio just before the All-Star break. He also had seven rebounds, five in the fourth quarter, as he played the whole period in place of Charles Oakley. Patrick Ewing had 20 points and 10 rebounds, Derek Harper had 15 points and John Starks 16 for New York. Armo Gilliam and Shawn Bradley had 16 points each for the Nets. Celtics 101, 76ers 95. Rookie Eric Williams scored a season-high 31 points as visiting Boston completed its first season-series sweep over the 76ers since 1972-73. Rick Fox had 21 points and Alton Lister a season-high 15 rebounds for the Celtics, who won all four meetings between the teams this season and have won six straight over the 76ers. Jerry Stackhouse had 24 points and nine assists for the 76ers, and Luance Weatherspoon added 20 points. Jazz 105, Grizzlies 91. Visiting Vancouver set a new NBA record for fouls with its 21st straight loss.

The Grizzlies, 11-58, broke the previous record for consecutive losses in a season previously shared by the 1972-73 Philadelphia 76ers and the 1993-94 Dallas Mavericks. The Grizzlies' last win was over the Sacramento Kings on February 14. Karl Malone scored 21 points and David Benoit added 18 as the Jazz.

FRIDAY'S RESULTS: Orlando 126, Toronto 86; New York 94, New Jersey 78; Boston 101, Philadelphia 95; Miami 112, Washington 93; LA Lakers 93, Atlanta 89; Minnesota 119, Dallas 104; Utah 105, Vancouver 91; Phoenix 108, Milwaukee 85; Sacramento 107, Charlotte 101 (OT). THURSDAY'S RESULTS: Chicago 81, Atlanta 80; Portland 84, Golden State 89; Denver 92, Vancouver 88; Cleveland 83, LA Clippers 81.

EASTERN CONFERENCE Atlantic Division: Orlando 18, Toronto 7, New York 28, New Jersey 21, Miami 34, Philadelphia 21, Washington 25, Charlotte 22, Boston 23, Cleveland 25, Philadelphia 14. Central Division: Chicago 61, Indiana 43, Cleveland 40, Detroit 39, Atlanta 39, Charlotte 35, Milwaukee 21, Toronto 18.

WESTERN CONFERENCE Midwest Division: San Antonio 52, Utah 50, Houston 42, Denver 42, Dallas 22, Vancouver 21. Pacific Division: Seattle 55, LA Lakers 55, Phoenix 36, Portland 34, Sacramento 31, Golden State 31, LA Clippers 28.

Play ball: This time for the whole season

HOENIX (AP) - For the first time in three years, baseball players expect a full season. Fasten those fences. Pitchers, catch out. Did someone say 62 homers? "If I just have a first half where I hit six, seven more homers, plus that extra 18 games, it's possible," said Colorado's Danie Bichette, who led the NL with 40 home runs last season. When the strike stopped the 1994 season on August 12, Matt Williams had 43 homers in 115 games, a pace that would have given him 60.6 over a full season. Ken Griffey Jr. hit 40 in 112 games, which projected to 57.9. "I'm not concerned about what happened in the past," Williams said this spring. "I just want to play." Albert Belle hit 50 homers in 144 games last season, a pace that would have given him 56.2. The Indians were 100-44. At that rate, they would have won 112.4 games, the most since the Chicago Cubs went 116-36 in 1906. "I'm not taking anything for granted," Belle said, "but if ev-

eryone stays healthy, we have a chance to win the most games ever in a season." When the 1995 season opened last April 25, pitchers had just three weeks to get ready. As a result, the longest outing for an opening day starter was 6 1/2 innings by Kansas City's Kevin Appier. "This year, everyone will be full out at the beginning," said Seattle's Randy Johnson, scheduled to throw this season's first pitch tonight against the Chicago White Sox. "Hopefully, I'll be able to go seven or eight innings. That's what spring training's for: getting arm strength up for pitchers." Johnson says he doesn't think about strikeout records. His 294 last season projected to 330.8 over a full season. Those who don't think about records are just happy they'll be on the field for a full six months. "We're excited. I haven't played 162 games in two years," Boston's Mo Vaughn said. "The only record I want is the pennant."

Belle and Chuck Knoblauch each hit 52 dummies. They would have wound up with 58.5 over a full season, the most since 1936, when Joe Medwick hit 64 and Charlie Gehringer hit 60. Even with the shortened season, Belle became the first player with 50 homers and 50 dummies in one season. "I kind of surprised myself with the 50 home runs," Belle said. "I thought the (team) record of 43 was attainable, but it seemed like I got in a groove at the end of the year and everything I hit went out." In 1994, Griffey hit 32 homers by June 30, breaking a record that had been set by Babe Ruth. He joked that he would grow an Afro, referring to Roger Maris's hair falling out in 1961, when he hit 61 homers to break Ruth's record of 60. "It was disappointing," Griffey said after the strike stopped his pursuit. "A couple of guys had a great shot to do it. But I'm not so much worried about that. If it's meant to be, then one day I'll get that chance."

Plenty of candidates for 'Comeback Player of the Year'

NEW YORK (AP) - Although Ryne Sandberg may be the leading contender for Comeback Player of the Year, he's surely no shoo-in. Dwight Gooden, Jimmy Key and Kevin Mitchell join Sandberg on an All-Star list of candidates, all back from long absences. Gooden returns after a 1 1/2-year ban from baseball for violating his drug aftercare program. He was suspended in June 1994, the same month Sandberg abruptly retired from the Chicago Cubs. "I feel very good now, very positive about being able to contribute," said Gooden, 31. Relievers John Hudek of Houston, Bryan Harvey of California and Duane Ward of Toronto were sidelined by injuries last year, as were Texas third baseman Dean Palmer, Boston pitcher Aaron Sele and Montreal first baseman Cliff Floyd. Key and Melido Perez, both teammates with Gooden on the New York Yankees, are trying to come back from injuries that forced them to miss most of 1995. Key, who started only five times before a torn rotator cuff ended his season, looked superb this spring, allowing only one earned run in his first 13 innings. "I think I'm going to put a sign on my locker that says, 'I'm fine,'" Key said. Cincinnati outfielder Eric Davis, meanwhile, is hoping to revive a career that seemed finished in

1994 because of back and neck problems. At 33, he went to camp wanting to win a job as a backup outfielder, but may wind up as the Reds' leadoff hitter. Eric has done it before," manager Jay Knight said. "We need somebody like (Vince) Coleman or Davis to get on base for Barry Larkin and Hal Morris and Reggie Sanders." Mitchell is among several players back from Japan. The 1989 NL MVP signed with Boston as an outfielder-designated hitter and is playing his way into shape. "I'm seeing a lot of breaking balls, which is good. The more I see, the better," he said after a recent workout. "Anybody can hit a fastball." Julio Franco has returned from a one-year stay in Japan and is Cleveland's new first baseman, and Roh Deer is in San Diego's outfield. Outfielder Pete Incaviglia, with Philadelphia, and reliever Bobby Thigpen, with the Chicago White Sox, are with their old teams. Several players, meanwhile, are hurting as the season approaches. Oakland first baseman Mark McGwire, Colorado pitchers Bret Saberhagen and Bill Swift, Cincinnati pitcher Jose Rijo, Yankees second baseman Pat Kelly and pitcher Bill Pulsipher and first baseman Rico Brogna of the New York Mets are likely to be absent on opening day.

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David Lloyd appointed England cricket coach

LONDON (AP) - Former Test opener David Lloyd was appointed Friday as England's cricket coach for this summer's series with India and Pakistan. The 49-year-old Lancashire coach was released by his county club for the five-month stint with England. "I am absolutely thrilled," Lloyd said. "I think it's everyone's ambition to want to be involved at the highest level. As far as I am concerned, we have the talent in England to do well - I am absolutely certain of that." "We have got to be very optimistic and look forward to this summer's series against India and Pakistan. I think we have to be enthusiastic."

"There's no doubt that the England lads have had a demanding time recently. Now we must rebuild confidence and instill enthusiasm into the players." Lloyd's appointment came a day after former Test spin bowler John Emburey ruled himself out of the running. Warwickshire's Phil Neale was considered the other leading candidate. After Raymond Illingworth's decision to step down as England team manager at the end of a frustrating winless period for the national team, the English Test and County Cricket Board said it preferred instead to appoint a coach for the summer. England has only one win in nine series since 1992.

Flyers nip Sabres in OT

BUFFALO (AP) - Boh Corum's goal with 1:10 left in overtime lifted the Philadelphia Flyers to a 6-5 victory over the Buffalo Sabres on Friday night in an NHL game temporarily suspended by a fight-filled second period. Eric Lindros scored one goal and had two assists to lead the Flyers, who earned their seventh win in eight games and moved one point ahead of the New York Rangers for first place in the Atlantic Division. Philadelphia had a 4-2 lead when the second period was suspended after several fights broke out simultaneously with 24 seconds remaining. At one point, every player on the ice was fighting, including both Trefilov and Philadelphia goalie Garth Snow. Capitals 5, Senators 0. Jim Carey posted his second straight shutout and league-leading ninth of the season and Washington scored two goals on his first four shots to win at home. Carey's shutout moved him ahead of Don Baupre as Washington's all-time shutout leader with 13. He has now earned consecutive shutouts twice this year, three times in his career and has five in his last 12 starts. The Capitals killed a 54-second penalty at the end of regulation to help Carey preserve the shutout with 24 saves. Kings 4, Flames 3. Yanic Perreault scored two goals as visiting Los Angeles beat Calgary in a crucial Western Conference game for both teams. Perreault ended a seven-game scoreless streak and increased his season total to 23 goals as Los Angeles became the fourth team in the last seven games to keep Calgary from boosting its record to 500. FRIDAY'S RESULTS: Philadelphia 6, Buffalo 5 (OT); Washington 5, Ottawa 0; Los Angeles 4, Calgary 3; Edmonton 3, Winnipeg 2; Vancouver 4, Chicago 2. THURSDAY'S RESULTS: Montreal 4, Boston 3 (OT); Pittsburgh 3, Florida 2; New Jersey 4, St. Louis 4; Dallas 3, Anaheim 1; Colorado 2, San Jose 3.

EASTERN CONFERENCE Atlantic Division: Philadelphia 39, NY Rangers 38, Florida 38, Washington 36, New Jersey 34, Tampa Bay 33, NY Islanders 30. Northeast Division: Pittsburgh 45, Montreal 38, Boston 36, Hartford 36, Buffalo 36, Ottawa 15. WESTERN CONFERENCE Central Division: Detroit 37, Chicago 37, St. Louis 31, Toronto 30, Winnipeg 30, Dallas 24. Pacific Division: Colorado 43, Vancouver 43, Calgary 31, Edmonton 30, Anaheim 29, Los Angeles 28, San Jose 18.

Steelers gaining reputation as drug-troubled team

PITTSBURGH (AP) - The Pittsburgh Steelers, synonymous with Super Bowls for so many years, are acquiring a less-enviable reputation: The NFL's most drug-troubled franchise. Running back Bam Morris's arrest on marijuana and cocaine charges is the latest unsavory episode for an organization that takes pride not only in its involvement in the community, but also the unusually close relationship between ownership and players. Despite the seriousness of the Morris charges - both are punishable by 2-10 years in prison and a \$10,000 fine - the Steelers are asking their fans to let the case be decided by the judicial system, not the public forum of call-in shows or letters to the editors. But privately, the Steelers are troubled that yet another player has ignored repeated warnings by the team and the NFL that players be mindful of their enviable position in society and the responsibilities that go with it. "Bam is a member of our football team, and a member of the Steelers family, and we're trying to do what we can to support him," director of football operations Tom Donahoe said. Steelers president Dan Rooney also spoke to Morris after his arrest last Friday and pledged the organization's support. "Bam is confident that when the entire story comes out and the whole story is told, hopefully, everything will work out for him," Donahoe said. Morris must be hoping it works out better for him than it did for Terry Long, Carlton Haselrig and Tim Worley, past Steelers whose off-field substance abuse problems effectively ended their careers in Pittsburgh. The Steelers' rap sheet of drug or alcohol offenders has grown longer with each passing season: Long, an offensive guard, attempted suicide after being suspended in 1991 for violating the NFL's steroids policy. He later rejoined the team but was not re-

signed after that season. Worley, a former first-round draft choice, drew a six-game suspension in 1991. He later skipped a mandatory drug test and was suspended for the 1992 season. Tight end Eric Green was suspended for a substance-abuse policy violation in 1992. Haselrig, a former Pro Bowl guard, made a series of stays in drug and alcohol treatment centers following a DUI conviction. He left the team during the 1992 season for treatment, then skipped training camp a year later following an apparent relapse and didn't play for the Steelers again. He later signed with the New York Jets, only to disappear again late last season. Morris, the leading rusher with 73 yards in the Steelers' 28-17 Super Bowl loss to the Dallas Cowboys, was arrested in Texas after police discovered six pounds of marijuana stuffed into a gym bag found in the trunk of his luxury automobile. Police say a search of the vehicle later turned up a small amount of cocaine hidden beneath an ashtray. Even if he escapes the charges with a fine and probation, Morris would be considered a first-time violator of the NFL's substance-abuse policy and would be subject to testing for the rest of his career. If he is found innocent in court or works out a plea bargain, Morris would be free to join the Steelers for training camp in mid-July. Regardless of the outcome, the Steelers likely will re-examine whether their undeniable popularity unintentionally creates a comfort zone that makes their players feel invulnerable to the rules of society. "I'm amazed at the amount of interest these cases receive," said Galen Sumrow, the Rockwall County (Texas) district attorney who will handle the Morris case. Morris's problems also complicated the Steelers' planning for next month's NFL draft. Even if they prefer not, the team probably will have to draft a running back.

Sky's the limit for Israel's top paragliding pilot

ALAN ROBERTS SPRING'S in the air. So is paraglider pilot Hezi Dvir, 30, holder of the national record for the greatest distance ever flown in Israel by a local paraglider pilot. His feat is listed in the official recordbook of the Israel Paragliding Association - of which some 600 local pilots are members. In Spring, 1993, Dvir took off from the Carmel Mountain Range at Zichron Ya'acov and headed east. Two and a half hours later, he put down on the Golan Heights at Kibbutz Merom Golan, after having flown over Megiddo, down the Jezreel Valley, over Afula, along the Gibeon Range and then across the Jordan Valley, a distance of 72 kilometers. "I flew over Hammat Gader but had to turn back because of the Israel-Jordan border", says the softly-spoken pilot. "If it had been open airspace, I could have glided further south, caught thermal air currents, and theoretically, been able to land near Amman. But as things turned out, I had to finish up at Kibbutz Merom Golan." Aspiring towards loftier goals, Dvir set his sights on the world distance record for paragliding: 283 kilometers, held by a friend of his, South African Alex Louw, who is listed in the Guinness Book of Records. In January 1995, Dvir met Louw in South Africa, went to a place called Kuruman near Kimberley and rigged his chute. This was the place where Louw had set the world record. "It's a flat plateau, with strong winds and lots of thermal air currents to help pilots gain altitude," says Dvir. "I was hoping to glide a distance of 150 kilometers, double what I did in Israel. I was very pleased with what I actually accomplished." Dvir's accomplishment was remarkable: flying for almost six hours at 6,000 meters above sea level at temperatures below freezing (on the ground it was 30-



UP, UP AND AWAY - Paraglider pilot Hezi Dvir can't seem to get his head out of the clouds.

40C) and breathing through an oxygen mask. Israel's top paraglider pilot flew a distance of 230 kms, 53 kms less than the official world record and the seventh longest distance ever flown by any paraglider pilot anywhere in the world. The result is even more remarkable in view of the fact that most of the world's top-notch paraglider pilots are professionals. But that doesn't deter Dvir at all. In fact, he's going to South Africa again this year - to have a second go at it. "Am I going to break the world record this time?" he asks with a chuckle. "I don't know. You need a lot of luck. You have to catch the right day with the perfect meteorological conditions, meaning lots of thermals. You often have to go down because of thunderstorms, but a car's follow-

ing to pick you up. Louw is at Kuruman every day of the year, so he's at an advantage." According to Dvir, the biggest paraglider-manufacturing company in the world right now is Israel's own, Apco based in Neotanya. Dvir met Louw for the first time at the 1993 World Paragliding Championships in Switzerland. There, Dvir invited the world champion to visit Israel and Louw ended up working at Apco as a test pilot. Dvir's near capture of the world distance record was followed by an outstanding performance in March at the 1995 World Championships on the Japanese island of Fukuoka. One hundred pilots from 25 countries competed. Judged on the basis of time in the air, distance covered and navigational accuracy, Dvir

came in 21st place. He was the only Israeli to compete. His results, seen from the perspective that the top notch paraglider pilots in the world today are professionals, is impressive. Dvir, himself, in fact, is semi-professional. He operates a company called - what else? - Dvir Paragliders, specializing in sky advertising and tandem flights for incoming tourists and local thrillseekers. "Thirty percent of my clients are tourists from abroad," Dvir says, "adventure tourism is big news all over the world right now, so why shouldn't we cater for it in Israel too? There is no sports activity quite as thrilling as paragliding. It's essentially flying without an engine and a cockpit. It's the sport and the tourism of the future."







BUSINESS & FINANCE

Dow closes down 43 WALL STREET REPORT

NEW YORK (AP) - Stocks ended mixed Friday but the Dow Jones industrial average plunged near the close as money managers locked in profits before the finish of a powerful first quarter.

On Wall Street, the Dow industrials lost 43.71 points to close at 5,587.14. The well-known barometer of big US companies, up over 10 percent since the start of the year, has meandered in a narrow range for most of the week with little in the way of economic news to stir the market.

"This is mostly about eod of quarter window-dressing by portfolio managers," said Dan Ascaio, president of Global Market Strategists Inc. of Gainesville, Georgia. "The past few quarters we've seen selling into the end of the quarter. The weakness today should be followed by a rally early next week, especially if bonds are stable."

Broad-market indexes were mixed. The NYSE composite index and the Standard and Poor's 500 list most lose some ground, but the

UK ends quarter on high note WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

LONDON (Reuters) - UK shares ended the first quarter on a positive note, buoyed by the re-emergence of merger interest, this time in the telecoms industry. Thursday's news that Cable & Wireless and British Telecom were back in exploratory talks which might lead to a merger sparked a more positive mood in the London market and took the FTSE 100 back towards the upper end of its recent trading range.

FRANKFURT - Bourse trade closed with the DAX index of 30 blue-chip German shares nearly a full percentage point lower, dragged down by lower DAX futures prices and a weaker dollar. The DAX index closed at 2,853.87 points, down 22.57 on the day and a fall of 18.15 on the week.

TOKYO - Tokyo's key Nikkei average closed the end of trading in 'the current fiscal year at a 21-month high, boosted by active buying parity for window-dressing. The boom in the over-the-counter (OTC) market continued on strong expectations of higher prices. The Nikkei finished up 111.03 points or 0.52 percent to 21,406.85, a gain of 705.93 on the week.

Dollar gains against yen CURRENCY REPORT

NEW YORK (AP) - The dollar reached seven-week highs against the Japanese yen Friday and finished with gains against most leading currencies after recovering from an early plunge on news of a surge in the US trade deficit.

The dollar's strength against the yen also contributed to the gain against the German mark.

1st-quarter concern mounts WALL STREET WEEK

NEW YORK (AP) - With the economy looking too lively to justify new interest rate cuts, investors are depending on strong first-quarter earnings to keep stock prices aloft.

They may not get them. Wall Street analysts who watch individual corporations are not nearly as upbeat as the Federal Reserve about the economy. They're expecting the slowest growth in quarterly profits in five years.

The companies that make up Standard-and-Poor's 500-stock list are expected to show combined first-quarter earnings growth as low as 4 percent compared with the first three months of 1995, and probably not much better than 8 percent, according to analyst surveys by leading research firms.

A series of major earnings disappointments could undermine stock prices in a hurry, triggering the much-feared correction that's been predicted again and again during the stock market's torrid climb in 1995 and early 1996.

Since the start of 1996, the S-and-P 500 is up 4.8 percent and the Dow Jones industrial average has risen 9.1 percent. If those gains outpace earnings growth significantly, money managers may move quickly to lock in profits.

Much of the market's gains in the first three months of the year came on Wall Street expectations that a stream of weak economic reports would justify interest rate cuts by the Fed for months to come.

But, Wednesday, Fed chairman, Alan Greenspan, was noticeably upbeat in a report to Congress, saying he believed the major drag on economic growth was lessening and the economy had new "staying power."

Key Representative Rates table with columns for instrument, rate, and change.

New York market indexes table listing various indices like DJ Industrial, NYSE, and S&P 500.

Other stock market indexes table listing international indices like FTSE 100 and Nikkei.

Israeli stocks in NY table listing companies like Am Tel and Am Tel Pcp.

Libor rates table listing various interest rates for different terms and currencies.

Dollar crossrates (US) table listing exchange rates for various currencies.

Foreign financial data courtesy of CommStock Trading Ltd. table listing various international market data.

INTL COMMODITIES AND METALS table listing prices for various commodities.

US commodities table listing prices for various US agricultural and industrial commodities.

London commodities table listing prices for various commodities traded in London.

Spot market metals (US) table listing prices for various metals.

New York metal futures table listing prices for various metal futures contracts.

London metal fixes table listing prices for various metal fixes.

ISRAELI MONEY MARKETS table listing various financial metrics like Patah and currency deposit rates.

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates (29.3.96) table listing exchange rates for various currencies.

INTERNATIONAL STOCK PRICES table listing prices for various international stocks.

NEW YORK table listing prices for various New York stocks.

LONDON table listing prices for various London stocks.

PARIS table listing prices for various Paris stocks.

MUTUAL FUNDS Flexible table listing various mutual funds and their performance.

Shares table listing prices for various shares.

State Bonds table listing prices for various state bonds.

Company Bonds table listing prices for various company bonds.

Foreign Currency table listing exchange rates for various currencies.

FRANKFURT table listing prices for various Frankfurt stocks.

Mixed table listing prices for various mixed investments.









# First International Bank - Banking Ahead Of Our Time

**BANK WATCH**

JANNEK SECURITIES LIMITED  
ISRAELI EQUITIES RESEARCH

**Moody's Investors Service**  
Global Credit Research

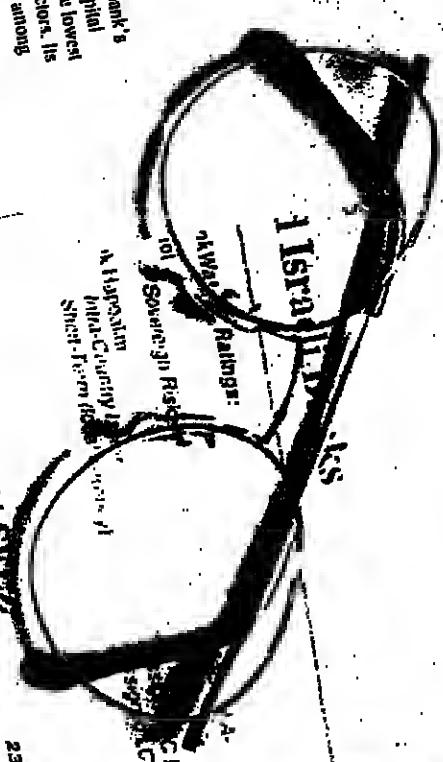
First International Bank of Israel's (FITB) 9 bank financial strength rating of C- reflects, in part, the bank's strong capital ratios, low level of problematic loans and high profitability. FITB's 1994 Tier one capital ratio of 12.5% is the highest in Israel and the component part of its profitability are consistently strong.

## First International Bank of Israel

**Geared market play - recommendation upgrade**

First International is in top quality bank in the profitable Israeli banking sector, well placed to face the current industry dynamics, and we expect it to continue to win market share. In addition, earnings are significantly influenced by the level of activity on the TASA, which we expect to improve markedly in 1996. First International offers a superior yield of over 5%, and we are changing our recommendation on the shares to a buy, anticipating the more positive outlook for 1996 and subsequent outperformance of the shares.

Year ended	1994	1993	1992	1991	1990	1989	1988	1987	1986
Assets	11,129.4	10,129.4	9,129.4	8,129.4	7,129.4	6,129.4	5,129.4	4,129.4	3,129.4
Liabilities	10,129.4	9,129.4	8,129.4	7,129.4	6,129.4	5,129.4	4,129.4	3,129.4	2,129.4
Capital	1,000.0	1,000.0	1,000.0	1,000.0	1,000.0	1,000.0	1,000.0	1,000.0	1,000.0
Profit	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Dividend	50.0	50.0	50.0	50.0	50.0	50.0	50.0	50.0	50.0
Yield	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%



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The fifth largest Israeli bank and the only major private bank, and aggressive, strong loan and deposit growth should continue.

**BUSINESS BACKGROUND**  
First International Bank of Israel (FITB) is ranked fifth in terms of assets, behind the four major public banks, in the Israeli banking industry. FITB has two overseas subsidiaries in Germany and the UK. FITB is a high quality bank with a strong track record of growth and profitability.

**OUTLOOK**  
FITB is one of the most innovative and creative banks in Israel. The bank's management has a strong track record of growth and profitability. FITB is well positioned to continue its growth and profitability in the coming years.

**Baring Securities**

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This advertisement should not be taken as a recommendation to purchase shares in the First International Group.